HARWOOD DIARIES

December 1806

TO

July 19, 1810

BENNINGTON, VERMONT

WARNER
STARK
ALLEN
ROBINSON
DEWEY
CLARK
WALBRIDGE
JEWETT
GALUSHA
HERRICK
FAY
TICHENOR
SAFFORD
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BENNINGTON BATTLE
MONUMENT AND HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION

1 SUNDAY, D. 21st. I went to Church on foot, there being no sleihing. Cloudy, windy from N. W. mild in the morning, but toward night it grew colder.

MONDAY, DEC'R. 23d. Not much done today. Ira & I thresh'd four floorings of Oats. Verry snowy till a little before night, it clear'd off verry pleasant in the evening. - Moon shone bright, wind N. W. - Mr. Doty of Stamford, Vt. is here this evening.- Ira is gone a sleigh-ride, with his wife & Lucy. -

TUESDAY, DEC'R. 23d. I took care of my cattle, thresh'd 26 shieves of Oats & cut wood for the fires. - Ira work'd for Jonas on the W. Mountain. - My Father & mother took a sleigh-ride to-day- got home just before it began to storm. - Our last snow was but light - not more than an inch & a half, it made verry good sleighing where it lay on ice; but where it was bare ground before it was pretty poor sleighing. The wind has blown verry strong from the S. A. M. it was chilly & cold, P. M. The air became damp & thawy The wind grew stronger as night came on. - 4P.M. it rain'd - continu'd till into the evening - wind lower'd.

WEDNESDAY, DEC'R. 24th Finished threshing Oats, I thresh'd 4 shocks of them today, & did some other smaller matters.

Ira work'd for Jonas on the Mountains, or more properly Mountain. This morning the wind was N. W. but in the night it had been S. & had made the air much milder, so as to thew off the whole of our last snow & leave it verry slippery in the road where the old snow is left; didn't freeze any till evening, at which time it was hazy & likely for a storm, wind S., The day cloudy.

state of the roads

Mr. Doty staid here last night - is gone home to Stamford, he's a sailor. - A Mr. Worthy tarri'd here also, he's a weaver.

THURSDAY, DEC'R. 25th Ira & I work'd for Adam, drawing out wood for him, from a place on Street's land (hying) lying W. of our Lime-kiln, had McOewen's oxen upon trial, he & talk of swapping Oxen. - Pleasant in the A. M. but the P. M. was cloudy & windy from the South, rather thawy, the snow's going by degrees.

drawing wood

2 McOwan's oxen

FRIDAY, DEC'R. 26th Measur'd up 34 bushels of Oats, mended an old rack for cattle to eat out of. This was most of my business this day. This morning it was verry cloudy, wind strong in the S. W. it had rain'd some in the night, which contributed not a little toward the dissolution of the snow - today it being warm & a little rainy, swept the snow off pretty fast. - It grew less cloudy toward night - wind not

measuring grain

2 so high - (en) evening the wind veer'd about in to the N. W.

Bees have been out yesterday & today. - Mr. Jona'n Doty of Fairfax is here to see his mother. He is a farmer.

Mr. Jon Doty

Drawing wood

SATURDAY, DEC'R. 27th Cut & drew off wood from a place on Mrs. Street's land, a few rods N. of Mt. Pleasant, part of this work was done for Adam, and a part of it was for myself only. Clear temperate, wind N. W.

SUNDAY, DEC'R. 28th Did not attend meeting. Verry stormy - especially toward the close of the day, the wind high in the S. till middle of the P. M. when it came about in to the N. W., it snow'd a little in the evening - wind high N. W., The old snow is left only in hollows & by the sides of fences. The new, only whightens the ground.

of the snow

Thresing wheat

MONDAY, DEC'R. 29th Threshing wheat has been the principle business of the day. Jonas & Ira had 4 hors's on the floor at once, they thresh'd out about 36 shocks. I helped about laying down the wheat & taking off the straw, while they were threshing. I was busy elsewhere. There was no frost in the ground yesterday, however this morning the ground was stiff enough to bear a horse. Scully, very cold.

3 TUES'Y, DEC'R. 30 Jonas & mys clean'd $24\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of wheat. This was the principle part of the work done today. - It has a verry keen cold day - wind high N. W. cloudy.

The same is measur'd

WEDNES'Y, DEC'R. 31st Ira Jonas & myself with 4 hors's thresh'd 42 shocks of wheat. A verry cold day - more clear than yesterday - not so much wind, but the air was of a keener cold, wind N. W. - no snow. - Robins are seen sometimes in flocks of a dozzen or more, somtimes 2 or 3 together as lively as they were in May - it is what I never saw before at this season.

Robins seen

3 THURSDAY, JAN'Y, 1st. 25½ bushels of wheat I have clean'd today by the help of Jonas part of the time, - most of this wheat had to be fanned by hand, there being not wind strong enough to winnow by; so that some of it ought to be clean'd again.

Ira split out a load of wood & carried it in a waggon to Dr. Swift's house - for Hiram to study by. Air still, sky clouded a little, pretty cold, but not to so high a degree as it has been for 2 days past wind N. W.

FRIDAY, JAN'Y. 2d. Jonas & Ira with some of my assistance, thresh'd 45 shocks of winter wheat, this they did with 4 horse's - My business has been various sorts - too many & too trivial to mentioned. Moderate weather a little cloudy - wind N.

SATURDAY, JAN'Y. 3d. Jonas & I (after threshing the last 14½ shocks) clean'd 38½ bushels of wheat, which completes the business of thr-

Threshing winter wheat concluded

eshing winter wheat, as near as I can calculate, I have rais'd 284½ bushels of winter - wheat - in 1806 (see Aug. 11) 88½ bhls of this grain has been thresh'd during the present week. - Verry sharp N. W. winds - sky pretty clear - hubby, & rough traveling in the highway.

SUNDAY, JAN'Y 4th Myself & others of the Family rode to Church in a wag-

Go to Church

gon - Mild weather - some cloudy, thawy wind wind S. W.

MON'Y, JAN'Y 5th Early this morning Ira his wife & sister Lucy sat out

Ira goes on journey

upon a journey to Northamton. Jonas & I threshed Spring wheat with his horses. - Verry cloudy & thawy likely for a rain.

4 TUESDAY, JAN'Y 6th Jonas & I completed the business of threshing spring

Spring wheat threshed

wheat & clean'd 10 bushels of it. - The weather has been rough & uncomfortable; it rain'd verry fast dur-

Rains

ing the forepart of the day - wind S. W., P. M. the wind veer'd about in to the W. - did not rain any, began to freeze in the evening - air much colder than in the morning - W.

WEDNES'Y, JANUARY 7th Finins'd cleaning spring wheat, the whole amount

4 and measured

of which is 22 bhls - Thresh'd off the verry last of my winter wheat 3 bhls when clean'd - also threshed 111 shieves of Rye Jonas assisted me thro the whole day. - Pretty cold - thaw'd some however - cloudy - wind N. W.

Rye threshed

THURSDAY, JAN'Y 8th. Brother Jonas & I thresh'd the last of my Rye with 4 hors's (for this is the way in which I do all my threshing) there are 24 shocks of what (whe) we have thresh'd today. - The air was keen, cloudy, wind N. W.

A cow butchered

FRID'Y, JAN'Y 9th. I butchor'd a fat cow, Mr. Thomas & Jonas help'd about it, her weight was 580 lbs. 53 lbs tallow - hide 59 lbs, she was fed with meal & potatoes - how much her keeping cost me, I'm unable to tell. Just at night Jonas & I clean'd & measur'd that Rye which we thresh'd yesterday - it amounts to 21 bhls - late when we finish'd this business. - Not verry cold, nor warm enough to thaw- cloudy wind S. W.

Rye measured

Drew straw from Hinman barn

SATUR'Y, JAN'Y. 10th. I drew 2 small loads of Straw which I had purchas'd of Mr. Thomas, from Hinman's Barn - P. M. had business in town. - Moderate weather - cloudy, wind South.

SUNDAY, JAN'Y. 11th. Myself nor none of my family didn't attend meeting. - Air mild in forepart of the day but toward night it grew colder, a smal flurry of snow fell last night scarcely enough to whten the ground - wind W. or N. W.

MON'Y, JAN'Y. 12th. Provided wood for fires, fed my Cattle & sat by a good fireside. - A cold day wind N. W.

About this time it is very cold

TUES'Y, JAN'Y. 13th. Cut wood enough to keep good fires - took special care of my cattle - read Gordon's American War - P. M. went to Mr. Searles's & got a few garments cut out - & that is all I have done this cold day. - A verry cold day - our Brook is completetly shut in. - wind N. W.

5

WED'Y, JAN'Y. 15th. Only took care of my Cattle, and took care of other matters of less importance. - Last night was the severest on account of the cold, of any that has preceded it this winter, the air has been pretty keen today, but the coldness decreas'd verry fast within a few hours. Wind S. W.

THURSDAY, JAN' Y 16th. Business the same as it was yesterday. - Shew'd Mr. Jonathan Doty the (pa) diffeent parts of the Farm. - It has been nothing uncommon since the commencement of the present month, to see Robins flying from one tree to another, chirping as lively as if it were summer, this circumstance has been notic'd by many, and is a thing

5
Robins

entirely new to the most aged persons amongst us; they are generally in large flocks. -

FRIDAY, JAN'Y. 17th. No other business of importance done to-day, except that of going to Maj. Norton's shop to see about getting my oxen shod. - Common winter weather, last night a small flurry of snow fell upon the ground of 2 inches depth - so that sleighing is nearly or quite as poor as it was when the ground was bare. I can't say in what direction the wind has been in today.

SATURDAY, JAN'Y. 18th. I assisted brother Jonas in getting up old wood on Col. D. Robinson's land. - The spot where we work'd is perhap 130 rods from my House in a S. W. direction. - Air mild, wind S. W. - cloudy, sighns of a storm. - S. W. Jonas broke his horse sled to-day.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17th. I did not attend public worship. - Not verry cold wind N. W. - Ira came home from Northampton. -

Got my oxen shod

MONDAY, JAN'Y. 18th. I went to Maj'r Norton's with my oxen in order to get them shod, but a little before night they got away & as I tho't came home, so I came directly home, but did not find them here. I sent Ira to town - he found them on his way thither - and finally had them shod. Pretty cold & clear wind N. W.

TUESDAY, JAN'Y. 19th. Chop'd wood in the woods. Jonas & Ira dressed a few pounds of flax. - Quite clear wind S. cold.

WED'Y, JAN'Y. 20th. Rode about town doing errands - Weather quite uncumfortable high wind N. W. - See p. 6th. day 29th.

Verry cold

THURSDAY, JAN'Y. 21st. Chop'd wood in the woods. Yesterday I omited mentioning that Jonas and Ira drew up wood for me. Last night was verry cold the day has been pretty cold wind N. W.

6

FRIDAY, JAN'Y. 23d. I sleded home some wood. - Cold day wind S. E.

SATURDAY, JAN'Y. 24th. I have done many errands today - cold - wind N. W. wind.

Go to church

SUNDAY, JAN'Y. 25th. Attended public worship. Not verry cold till toward the close of the day when it became quite cold wind N. W.

MONDAY, JAN'Y. 26th. I chop'd a little wood in the woods & some at the door, it was so amazing cold that I did but little. - The preceding night has been intensly cold, the day has been by far the coldest that we have had this season. -

Verry cold

6 verry clear - wind N. W.

TUESDAY, JAN'Y. 27th. Rode to Pownal on business of a private nature with Esquire Noble - fed my cattle pretty faithfully and provided firewood for my own fire place, it being Ira's business to cut his own as well as my father's.

S. E. storm We have experienc'd a verry cold S. E. storm this day - wind was verry high from S. E. - but little snow.

WEDNESDAY, JAN'Y. 28th. I drew 2 loads of wood and sharpen'd some axes. - Weather moderate & thawy - cloudy & foggy wind S. Mr. Jonathan Case bro't my brother - in - law Mr. Stone & Mrs. Stone on a visit from Hoosack.

Drew wood

THURS'Y, JAN'Y. 29th. Chop'd down one of our apple trees which formerly stood verry incommodiously on account of its shading my wood-pile, it stood about 4 rods E. of the house; I chop'd it fire length, I had time to do more but as it happen'd this was the chief I did. - Mild and thawy - A. M. wind S. W. P. M. N. W.

mild weather

On the 20th of this month (see Wed'y the 20 p. 5) Mr. Josep Hinsdale gave me his account against me which stands thus for the year of 1805 it amounts to $9.27, for 1806 its amount is $17.51 - both sums added stands thus $26.78. I also owe Mr. Hinsdale s15..11d on Ruth Harwoods account.

Debts

FRID'Y, JAN'Y. 30th. I chop'd wood in the sugar place. - Clear & cold wind N. W.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31st. Rode to Capt. Barney's on business - went to Mr. T. Palmer's & to Maj'r. Norton's - did no work. - A Stormy day. A. M. much wind from S. E. P. M. wind in about the same direction, it snow'd for 2 or 3 hours after which it turn'd to rain & continu'd so till after I retir'd to rest wind S. or W.

Stormy

SUNDAY, Mr. Ezra Doty Left our house for Hardwicke.

7 SUNDAY, FEB'Y. 1st. I did not attend public worship. - The weather chang'd (un) quite unexpectedly, for this morning I found considerable debth of snow, wind N. W. verry strong - the snow has blown about into heaps - blustering - wind N. W.

MONDAY, FEB'Y. 2d. Got my horses shod - went to Maj'r Hawks's - and prepar'd my sleigh and other matters for going to Troy. I have not observ'd the weather. I think it was calm & cloudy. I went down to Troy with 24..42 lb wheat Stor'd it a Brow & Heart's store the present price

Tuesday & Wed'y.

7 Go to Troy

being too low - only 10/6. bought a number of small articles for brother Jonas & Ira who are about preparing to remove to Hopkinton - New York State - Tuesday was pretty cold P. M. some stormy. Wednesday was A cold day. -

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 6th. & 7th. My business was the same these 2 days as it had been the 2 preceding days. I have stor'd the whole of my wheat, (that is, what I have carri'd in the 2 last journeys) which amounts to 51½ bushels. Thursday was a verry clear day but the air was amazing cold. Friday it snow'd verry steadily all day, just at night the wind began to blow terrible & continu'd till past midnight wind N. W. My house is now pretty well fill'd with Cousins from Stockbridge & there abouts - here follows their names Henry Taylor his brother Erastus. Bohan Dewey, his sister Olive & Martha Taylor. -

Same

SATURDAY, FEB'Y 7th. I only drew one load of wood. The weather was intensly cold & the sky clear. -

Verry cold

SUNDAY, FEB'Y. 8th. I was rather unwell - kept my house. This day has been remarkably clear & cold. The preceding night was one of the most freezing nights that I ever experienc'd.

Unwell

MONDAY FEB'Y. 9th. Jonas Hiram & I got four loads of wood from the sugar place. Last night was about equal to the preceding one on account of the cold, but the weather has been quite moderate during the day, some cloudy. - wind South. -

Draw wood

TUESDAY, FEB'Y. 10th. Myself & Hiram made out so as to get 3 loads of wood; tho I was but little better than sick during the whole day. Every thing is confusion within doors on account of Ira's moving away he thinks now that he shall set off to-morrow with oxteam. - moderate weather rather thawy - air verry still. -

Continu'd

WEDNESD'Y. FEB'Y. 11th. In the A. M. I assisted Ira about packing up his goods. In the P. M. I rode up to the North part of the town on particular business. - The weather was verry moderate, the air was still cloudy - wind Southwardly. - Ira nearly compleated loading his ox-sled. I have sold him my Oxen, he's in good spirits. -

8 Ira begins his journey for Hopkinton See p. 11

THURSDAY, FEB'Y. 12th. About 9 O'clock this morning Ira in company with Isaac Godfry started with his Ox-team & 2* Cows, for Hopkinton. Ira's load consists various sorts of furniture & provisions necessary for house-keeping, besides these he carries a Potash kettle for Noah Smith (whose oxen

8 makes a part of the team) its weight being 600 hundred; we reckon the whole weight of the load to be about a ton. They found that their load was too heavy when they had proceeded as far as Uncle Zach's. Jonas put on one of his horses they then pursu'd their Journey. I borrowed 25 dollars of Mr. Gates for Ira's use on his journey. I drew a load of wood for Mr. Gates.

The air has been quite warm this, the whole day with a small breeze of wind from the south, it was fair at night & froze some. -

FRIDAY, FEB'Y. 13th. This A. M. I help'd Jonas get some wood - P. M. I went to town - did some business with Mr. McEowen for Ira,- went up to uncle Zach's and partly agreed with him to hire his son Zach to go with a team for Jonas to Hopkinton. I hir'd ten dollars of Capt. Dewey - to be paid at the end of 2 months. Wind stiff in the South, the snow thaws away pretty fast, now at night it rains. -

SATURDAY, FEB'Y. 14th. In the A. M. I had business in town, but in the other parts of the day I did nothing worth mentioning, except choping a little wood at the door. At night Brother Jonas & I reckon'd our accounts, but did not quite finish the business.

It has rain'd verry fast and steady all this day, in the the morning the wind was South - P. M. it was N. W., the snow dessolv'd verry rapidly today, and the brooks have been rais'd considerably, it has been a good deal fogy, which is a sign of cold. - Lucinda Clark & 3 others* staid here last night. -

SUNDAY, FEB'Y. 15th. I did not go to church, my time was principally taken up in preparing for Jonas's removal, his plan was to set off to-morrow, but he has been oblig'd to alter it in consequence of my hiring Samuel Robinson Jun'r to go with one of the teams, in stead of myself. Sam'l can't get ready until Tuesday. I have had tho'ts of going with Jonas on his journey to Hopkinton, but when I came to consider the many inconveniencies that would occur in the prosecution of so arduous a task; I gave over all tho'ts of it. Mr. Robinson is a man well qualified for such an undertaking (had) having had considerable experience in that sort of business, and besides he is bless'd with a pretty firm constitution. The greatest reason why I do not go, is on account of my health, nothing impairs it so much as the fatigues of a journey, many others might be mention'd which I shall here omit. -

Jonas concludes to go to Hopkinton with his family.

Sam'l Robinson hir'd to go with him.

It was foggy & chilly this morning - the fog soon passed off & grew cold verry fast insomuch that before night all the runing waters were congeal'd into ice. -

*one of which blongs to Jonas. - *A man & 2 women - sleigh & hors's.

9

Great confusion in the family.

MOND'Y, FEB'Y. 16th. Much confusion has prevail'd here to-day by reason of Jonas's moving to-morrow. I have assisted him about packing up and loading his goods. I have hir'd dollars of Mr. Joshua Gates this day - to be paid on the first of Nov'r next. This money I give to Ira & Jonas. A verry cold windy day - cloudy wind N. W.

Jonas starts off.

TUESDAY, FEB'Y. 17th. This morn'g about 10 O'-clock Jonas & his family & Ira's set out for Hopkinton - Mr. Robinson goes with a load of goods, I accompanied them as far as Mr. Wheat's in Shaftsbury, here I parted with them. The morning was pleasant but toward night it became cloudy. - For Jonas & Ira I've hir'd 85 dollars.

WED'Y, FEB'Y. 18th. I did no great things to-day. I rode with Mr. Elis Doty down to Sam'l Robinson's to see how his family far'd - came home on foot. It has been a verry stormy day from S. E. not much snow fell - at night it began to rain. -

State of the weather.

THURS'Y, FEB'Y. 19th. I chop'd wood at my Father' door, kept pretty steady at my work. It rain'd a great deal last night which has caus'd the brooks & rivers to be verry high, this morning it snow'd a little, the wind being in the N.W., but soon ceas'd & remain'd cloudy with wind from N. W. During the last thaw the snow has been carri'd off from the open to a considerable degree, verry icy in the roads. By the late freshets in the streams the bridges over them have many of them been carri'd off.-

FRID'Y, FEB'Y. 20th. In the P. M. I went in to my wood-lot & chop'd wood. Cold & cloudy high wind from N. W.

SATURDAY, FEB'Y. 21st. Besides taking care of my cattle & other matters I went down brother Sam's & to mill. Verry clear but cold good deal of wind from N. W. -

SUND'Y, FEB'Y. 22d. Absent from Church - felt verry sluggish all day. The day was fair - midling cold pretty steady wind N. W.

chopping continu'd.

MOND'Y, FEB' Y. 23d. In the A. M. I help'd my Father about making a calf pen - P. M. Hiram & I mov'd a stack of straw into the barn with hay polls, this done, we ground our axes & chop'd a little wood at the door. I deem it proper to observe in this place that Hiram has hitherto employ'd his time in studying English Grammer at Dr. Swift's with a Mr. Van Husan what proficiency he has made in that study, I am unable to decide not having any just knowledge of that science; he left his

9 study last Saturday which completes his time for that business, till another winter. Pleasant - a little thawy wind W. or N. W. -

TUES'Y, FEB'Y. 24th. I kept about my business (which was chopping wood) pretty steadily. Hiram chop'd ---- some.

Two young men came to me to-day to be hir'd during the ensueing season, having previously engag'd a hand I had no occation for either of them, so I sent them to a Neighbor who wants a hand or 2. Zachariah Harwood jun'r was here this evening who I have hired to work for Mr. S. Robinson one week. I paid him 2¼ dolls which is the sum requir'd. - A little thawy - cloudy - wind W. A small flurry of snow fell last night. -

10 Zach Harwood paid.

WEDNESDAY, FEB'Y. 25th. My business was the same as it had been the preceding day. Hiram work'd ----- not verry hard. - One of my cousins (Mr. Levi Smedly Wms'town) call on me this P. M. and made me a short visit, he is on his return from a short journey to Sunderland, he says that the sleighing is verry rough most of the way from Williamstown to Lockwood's in Sunderland - distance miles. In fact there is but verry little snow in open land except it be by the sides of fences & in ditches. - It was clear but not verry cold wind N. W. - to-day.

Lambs. Young lambs begin to come along about this time & are not a little troublesome. -

THURSD' Y, FEB'Y. 26th. This morning I sent Hiram off to Wadsworth's to get an axe mended which I broke choping in easy wood, he return'd a little before night - he accomplish'd his end. -

I chop'd wood most of the time - I took care of some things that Jonas had left in a bad condition, particularly a hgshead which he had suffer'd to lie in the Brook ever since last fall, it is now removed to a place of safety. The sky thinly clouded - thawy wind W. -

FRIDAY, FEB'Y. 27th. A. M. ground a couple of axes, P. M. I went to town, Hiram went to the tailor's to a garment cut out, both of us return'd before night & chop'd a little wood. Fair & midling cold wind N. W.

Chopping

SATUR'Y, FEB'Y. 28th. Chopping wood at the door was our business. - a verry cold S. W. wind blew high, which made it harsh weather indeed, in the evening the wind was high in the E. storm'd a round kind of hail it has been pretty cold to-day but abated some in eve.

My wheat being all thresh'd I'm (has) enabled to make a statement of it. The whole N. of bushels is 290 of winter wheat. Spring - wheat amounts to 22 bushels, it was a poor crop growing on an acre and ¼th

10 of ground. -

11 SUND'Y, MARCH 1st. My time was taken up in reading Gordon's American war. The storm that began last evening continued, I suppose, till near morning, at which time the wind was N. W. it hailed & snow'd enough to make about 3 inches thickness & will help or repair the sleighing considerably. Not verry cold in the morning grew colder toward night. -

A storm

MOND'Y, MARCH 2d. Late in the A. M. Hiram I went in to the woods, here we chop'd down a pretty large Maple tree & cut it up fit for drawing home, which compleated this day's labor.

Go into woods & chop

Miss Harriot Safford set out for Enosburg this morning with Mr. David Fasset who was order'd by her father to take her home. I have feelings about this matter that I dare not write, one thing I must declare, that I am heartily glad of her absense. The weather was cold tho pleasant wind N. W.

TUESD'Y, MARCH 3d. Our business was the same as it was yesterday. Pleasant but cold wind N. W. - cold nights. Thaws a little during the day

Same

WED'Y, MARCH 4th. (I omitted one thing in the account of my business yesterday, which was that of going to town in the P. M. to do some business with Capt. Squire, but found neither him nor his son at home, so I return'd without effecting my purpose) I work'd for Mrs. Street on the Mountain, I had Hiram with me did a middling day's work charg'd her 4/6 - Cold & a little cloudy. wind N. W. - Dr. Fay & his wife are at my Father's.

Dr. Fay

THURSDAY, MARCH 5th. Elder Stark staid here last last night, he set out for home a little before noon, while he was here I spent my time chiefly with him, about noon I chop'd a little at the door, 1 P. M. Isaac Godfrey arriv'd here from Hopkinton. The greatest misfortune that Ira met with on the road was, that of laming Smith's Oxen, in consequence of that, had to unload some of his own effects & the Pot-ash kettle at Dow's tavern in Danby, and then unyoke Smith's exen & drive them with his cows, Isaac mentions no misfortune after this, says it was verry good crossing the Lake, Ira's team reach'd Hopkinton only 1 day later then the sleighs, there was no material bad luck that happen'd to them they went into a comfortable house, appear'd to be pretty well conttented. I sincerely hope they may do well, Mr. Robinson was here this evening. I had many particulars concerning the journey from him, but too minute for me to relate. The sleighs got into Hopkinton Feb. 24th the ox-team on the 25th.

Isaac Godfrey & Sam'l Robinson arrive from Hopkinton See p.8

11 Isaac says that Ira had sent for his goods before he came away. -

Robinson & Isaac came back in 2 sleighs had no mishap on the road. - (see page 8,9 Feb 12 - 15-17) Clear - cold, wind N. W.

Draw wood

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th. I drew 4 loads of wood of moderate size on a Sleigh, late in the morning when I began my work. - Hiram went to mill in A. M., P. M. helpled me. - Verry pleasant - wind N. W.

SATURD'Y, MARCH 7th. Getting up wood was my business again to-day rather thawy wind South West. -

12 I must here notice a circumstance which occur'd in my family yesterday. In the forepart of last December we quit the lower part of the house & mov'd in to the upper part, in order to be warmer and burn less wood, we however were oblig'd to have a fire in the kitchen about once in a week to wash & bake by, otherwise we kept but one fire. Things remained in this state till yesterday, when my wife's uneasiness became so great that, she declar'd she would live so no longer, nothing would do but to move into the kitchen again, which was done accordingly. I mention it because I highly disapprove of the measure, now is the time if ever to save wood, in this season we should burn much less wood in the upper than in the lower part of the house, this I know by experience, we should certainly be willing to dispense with many conveniencies for the sake of saving wood. Wood is scarse especially on this farm & if we are not verry saving in the use of it in a few years we shall have none at all. The room in which we now live, burns wood verry fast, & is not warm neither, therefore I wholly disapprove of Mrs. Harwood's conduct in moving into this room at this time.

To Church

SUNDAY, MARCH 8th. Went to Church in a sleigh, found pretty good sleighing. The wind was S. W. - stormy on the mountains - in the evening it snow'd & rain'd together. -

MONDAY, MARCH 9th. It was bad getting wood to-day on one account but good on another, the wood was verry wet slippery & ugly to handle, but the sleighing was pretty good, Im oblig'd to carry light loads because my sleigh is so slender. I was oblig'd to relinquish the business before night on accoun of the rain. -

It snow'd some last night, was calm & warm this morning, the clouds thick & low, hung upon the mountains - slight breeze from the S., continu'd in this position till about the middle of P. M. at which time it began to rain continues this evening while I'm now writing. - Thawy in the roads. -

TUESD'Y, MARCH 10th. I got one load of wood

12 found it pretty bad slighing the snow being verry soft. I tho't I would wait till it froze. I got about half a stack of hay into the horse barn, kept myself busy this the whole day. - The snow was carri'd off considerably last night, verry sposhy & soft, will breeze to-night Cloudy wind N. W.

Bad sleighing

WEDNESD'Y, MARCH 11th. This morning Isaac Godfrey had my sleigh & horses to go & get 11 bushels of corn, which he deliver'd to me for 3/0 per bushel.

Debt to I. Godfrey

I'm now indebted to Isaac ten dollars & a half. Hiram & I added 6 six small sleigh-loads of wood to our pile. My sleigh is not fit for this business, it being too slender to carry a full load, especially in time of such poor sleighing as it now is. - It froze pretty strong last night, but thaw'd again by this day's sun it was verry fair wind N. W. -

13 THURSDAY, MARCH 12th. My business was of little importance. I went to Major Norton's & got one my hors's shod. - Isaac Godfrey had one of my horses to ride to Hoosac with sister Lucy. - A fair day cold - ground continu'd frozen in the shade, wind N. W. -

FRIDAY, MARCH 13th. I bro't down a little more wood - broke both of my slieghs. - Nathan Robinson receiv'd of me this day ten bushels of wheat of 7/0 per bhl. - nothing but honor made me part with the wheat at the above price, for I can get 7/0 at Troy for it. Mr. Robinson bargain'd for the wheat last fall when it went at the price which he now goives. - Dr. Fay & Mrs. Fay took leave of us this evening for home ie in Charlotte. - Cloudy - storm'd snow in the evening, chilly wind N. W. or West.

Sleighs broken

Natn'n Robinson wheat

SATURD'Y, MARCH 14th. In the A. M. I split up a little ovenwood & chop'd some, did not work verry furiously. P. M. about sun an hour above the mountain I took my horse & rode down to the South end of the town to see Mr. Duncan, but found that he had mov'd away, (into Pownal) from thence I went to Mr. Palmer's & got a piece of cloth that he has been weaving for us. I partly agreed with his son to come & dress Flax for me. from Palmer's I came home. A small flurry of snow fell last night, verry clear & pretty cold wind N. W. Hiram chop'd wood at the door.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15th. I attended public worship - rode in a sleigh with two or three others of the family - slieghing not over good. - Mr. Marsh preach'd from what text I can't remember. - Pretty cold, but the sky was verry serene wind N. W. -

To Church

MONDAY, MARCH 16th. My son & I have chop'd down two middling

13 chopping

siz'd maples and prepar'd them for carrying on the sled, these trees stood in the sugar - place, beside which there are only two others left standing.

Reflections on the wood lot.

When we had done chopping on those maples I went up west of the sugar-orchard on to a hill that overlooks most of it; here I had a molancholly prospect - to behold such a large division of our wood, lot once cover'd with stately Maples, many of them 3 feet in diameter & from 80 to 100 feet in height; now with only a few scattering beaches dispers'd among the little young saplings & under brush which will require many years growth before they will turn to any profit; - gave me dis-agreeable feelings. However we are not entirely strip'd of wood as yet, for in S. W. part of the lot we have never cut a great deal of wood, so that a great quantity of it still remains. I soon quit this scene & return'd home. Without waiting for supper I took my horse & rode to Mr. L. Dewey's where Mrs Harwood had made an P. M. visit, we spent the evening here jolity & mirth till late bed-time & then return'd home.

I got my supper where I made my visit. - A verry fair day not verry cold - wind S. W. at night, it would be tolerable sledding in the woods, but in open land it would ..... (poor doings)

14

TUESDAY, MARCH 17th.

A Sled made by Mr. Lewis

I hir'd Mr. Lewis to frame a horse-sled, he & I have been pretty busy about it to-day; I shan't want him much to-morrow because I can do what remains to be done without the assistance of a carpenter. My Father has work'd upon the sled too. Hiram chop'd wood at my door, but did not work verry steady. The sky was clouded over with thin clouds - they appear'd thick in the south - at night it appear'd likely to storm at which the wind was in the south west - we have had no march winds yet.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th.

Finish'd

My Father & I finish'd the horse-sled without any assistance from Mr. Lewis, who expected would have help'd us a little while to-day, however we did verry well without him. I drew 2 loads of wood just at night with my new sled - and I find it suits me well. Hiram chop'd wood part of the day. I believe he churn'd some butter for his mother in the P. M. The weather was cloudy & squally - wind was high from North West at night. -

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th.

Drawing wood

Tho'ts on times past

With my hors's & new sled I have drawn loads of wood. Hiram help'd me load & chop'd some besides. I have brot up more wood to the door to-day, than has been in one day before, this winter; all that wood which I cut up last Mond'y including 2 or 3 small trees that Hiram chop'd is now at my door. How plain we can discover an error after it is commited. I might have had this sled made in February while my horses were gone to Hopkinton, just as well as at the time in which it was made; but it can't be help'd now.

14 I must improve what sledding I may get within this month; it is excellent ~~sledding~~ for this season, there's a good snow path till we come to the lane, & then it is not all bare ground, it being considerable icy.

Drawing home this wood on a sled was what I little thot of 4 days ago; then I had it in contemplation to cut ~~it~~ & split it up fit for the fire-place on the spot, & waggon it home as occasion might require; but I have since found a better way than that.

Flax dressers. - Now I mention this so as to show what changes our plans are subject to. - Messrs Bliss and Dewey came here early this morning to dress flax; about 11 O'-clock Messrs Duncan & Dooper from Pownal commenc'd the same business, these men cannot allow cyder to remain confin'd in the cask, but will let it run at the tap awhile and then permit it to run down their parch'd throats; above 3 gallons of my cyder has been liberated in this manner today. I don't notice this because I grudge the cyder to them; it is because I see how like beasts men will act, when they do not govern themselves. - They say the flax dresses pretty tough, but that it is good when once got out. - Mr. Dewey & Bliss have a 3d for dressing 15 lb..8 oz. days work. Messr Duncan & Cooper the same 12 lb..12 oz. or 29 lb..20 oz. The share of the workmen is 9 lb..11 oz. My share is 19 lb..9 oz.

The weather was rough, the wind blew verry chilly from N. W. altho it was cold, it did not keep the ground from thawing in the middle of the day. -

15 FRIDAY, MARCH 20th I let Hiram go with the horses to-day & took the axe myself we got 6 loads - sledding remains pretty much as it was yesterd'y. - I'm verry much pleas'd with my team & sled, I never was better able to do without oxen than at this time, on account of having so good a span of horses, I can make them go in any part of the woods where I wish to; and they will draw as much as any horse of their size, therefore I think I'm verry lucky in being the owner of them. -

Lewis was here Yesterday, he then told me that he should not exact anything of me for what he did toward making the sled.

Lewis refuses pay for his work on the 17th. I don't think the man does right, because he is not able to give me so much, it is true he did not do a great deal that day (see March 17th.) on accoun of his being unwell -- I'm willing to pay him what he earned, though it were a half dollar or four shillings - just as he might think right. - Messrs Duncan & Cooper tarried here last night and have been dressing flax this day, to the amount of 17 lb..12 oz. Flax to which may be added what they did yesterday 12 lb.. 12 oz. The whole when added, makes 30 lb..8 oz. Duncan & Cooper are entitled to 10 lb..2 oz. consequently my share is 20 lb..4 oz.

Last night a small flurry of snow descended from the clouds, the clouds were thick & misty for sometime in the morning, toward noon the sun began to break out

15 between the clouds in short flashes which soon dissolv'd the new snow in the low & open lands - in fine it has been some thawy - chilly - cloudy - and windy from N. W. cold nights. - Our schoolmaster Mr. Packard call'd on me this evening for my school rate which was $2.33 I paid it to him also 65 sixty five cents for brother Jonas upon the same account. -

School rate

SATUR'Y, MARCH 21st. I again permited Hiram to go with the horses and wielded the axe myself, 6 loads were carri'd home today - the sledding holds out pretty well on the high-lands & in the woods, but in the lane it became so bare that we drew the two last loads thro the meadow, - At night after I came down from the woods, my Father & I put a load of hay in to the horse stable, which clos'd this day's work Hiram went to town to borrow some Newspapers - return'd shortly - thinks it is verry good riding considering the season. The weather was chilly - A. M. sqally - P. M. more pleasant, shifting winds. cloudy - thaw'd a little.

SUND'Y, MARCH 22d. I spent this day at home reading Gordon's American war & hearing Mathew Bunn's captivity. Cold & cloudy wind N. W.

MONDAY, MARCH 23d. Drawing up wood was our business, it consisted chiefly of bass wood - cut on the hill W. of the Sugar orchard, that which we cut last week save 2 or 3 loads, grew in the Sugar orchard - went 6 loads, I chop'd. - Duncan & Cooper have dress'd flax today

Verry cold in A. M. & cloudy wind N. W. P. M. more moderate but still pretty cold - not so cloudy - at night the wind came S. W.

This morning being at work close in with the south side of a steep ledge of rocks (~~facing the south~~) I happen'd to cut a few limbs from off a maple sapling, in a little time afterwards I observ'd icicles of 3 or 4 inches in length form'd by the sap that had flown from whence the limbs were taken off; this suppris'd me, for I did not think it was so cold,
16 at the same time I believe it was owing as much to the state ~~of~~ the sap was in, as to the ~~state~~ temperature of the air, but I leave this to the philosopher. -

TUESDAY, MARCH 24th. In the forepart of the day Hiram & I drew 3 loads of basswood & hard-hack from a few rods W. of the old sugar-orchard which completes the business of drawing wood for the present. The sledding grows bad, it has been extraordinary good for some time back. - In the P. M. I took my horses & drew rails from the W. side of the wheat-field (see book No. 2d page 43d) to repair other fences. - I feel quite discourag'd about my wheat where there is no snow upon it, it looks dead - perhaps it may do well notwithstanding. Messrs.

16 Cooper & Duncan - Dewey & Bliss dress'd flax here today Dewey & Bliss dress'd - this day 15 lb..6 oz. Flax two thirds of which blongs to me & stands thus 10 lb..2 oz. Duncan & Cooper the two last days have dress'd 24 lb..0 oz. Flax from whence I draw two thirds, that is 8 lb..0 oz. They had to quit the business before night on account of the dampness of the weather. - In the morning it was fair but cold, toward noon it grew hazy - wind strong in the S. W. P. M. it became quite cloudy - wind strengthened, in the evening it storm'd - wind verry high in the S. W. Just in the edge of the evening Col'n Robinson rode up in great haste & inform'd me that Capt. Moses Robinson had us'd every mean in his power to be elected first select-man to-morrow, the Col'n is highly oppos'd to it, he came to see me to know whether I had been deceiv'd like many others, but I prov'd to his satisfaction that I had not, I assur'd him that Moses Robinson jun'r should never have a vote from me. - The Col'n's journey was needless for my resolution was fix'd previous to his advices, I have not forgotten last town-meeting-day - and I still remember that Moses Robinson was then & now is an Adams federalist, men of that description I shall ever appose as candidates for any office whatever. (see Book 1st page Wednesday)

A Gentleman -comes see about town meeting. -

WEDNESD'Y, MARCH 25th. I attended town-meeting - we voted by ballot. The following men were appointed to fill the offices annex'd to their respective names-

Town meeting

Jonth'n E. Robinson -----Clerk
Mosses Robinson jun'r ---First select man
Joseph Wadsworth ----------ditto
Samuel Blackmer ----------ditto
William Henry ----------ditto
Timothy Hervey ----------ditto

I do not recollect the order in which they stand so that I can't give each one his number. - The 4 latter Gent'n had my vote.

David Walbridge --------1st. constable
Wait Church ----------2d. constable

Other officers of less importance I shall not name.

Perhaps on some future day I may undertake to give an answer to this question, vis. - How come Mosses Robinson jun. to be elected first select man, when he is such a firm federalist, & at the same time a large majority of the town are republicans?

See March 29th. 1809 where this question is answer'd Last night the snow fell 4 or 5 inches deep, ~~was come~~ cold - cloudy - squally wind N. W. - I must here observe that our meeting was verry full. -

17 THURSD'Y, MARCH 26th. Went with my sleigh & horses & carri'd a grist to mill. Mrs. Harwood & my 2 daughters rode with me as far as S. Robinson's store there waited till I return'd from mill, which I did in a short time & then went with me as far as brother Sam's where I left them & proceeded onward till I arriv'd at Mr. Kirshaw's

17 with whom I had business, he owns a carding machine - I paid him $ for carding - paid $ to Mr. Hinsdale. Sleighing is bad - we return'd from this great visit about sun-set. - Cloudy & cold in the morning the rest of the day verry pleasant but chilly - wind N. W.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27th. Took 2 loads of hay from Mrs. Street's barn (once belonging to Jonas that is the hay) & put it into our horse-stable - P. M. chop'd wood at the door awhile - quit it before night on account of bad weather. The flax dressers were here to-day. - Forenoon lowery - snow'd a littl - for awhile in the P. M. it did not storm any - but just at night the snow came down pretty fast for about 2 hours - its depth is inconsiderable - not cold nor warm - thawy wind N. W. -

SATURDAY MARCH 28th. I Hatchel'd Flax for the flax dressers. The 2 last days Messrs Duncan & Cooper have dress'd 35 lb. 8 oz. flax. The 2 last days Messrs Dewey & Bliss have dressed 33 lb..0 oz. The whole added makes 68 lb..8 oz. NB Yesterday Dewey & Bliss dress 15½ lb. & to-day 17½. Duncan & Cooper yester'y - 15 3/4 - to-day 19 3/4.

I'm happy in recording the removal of a bad neighbor from the neighborhood, tho not without having some small difficulties with him - too small to be inscerted here - it is sufficient to say that I lent my sleigh to Mr. Silas Stark to remove his family from Capt. Hinman's old house to the W. part of the town, he return'd the sleigh at night. -

My father & Hiram in the morning with horses & sled, bro't a load of straw from Mrs Street's barn - Jonas had the straw at first - since he was gone all his foder fell in to our hands father imagines this straw to be almost equal to english hay because it came from another barn, so notional he is. -

Hiram went to mill with the waggon in the P.M., bro't home that grist which I carri'd there last Thursday - fair day wind N. W.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29th. Read Gordon's American war - Verry cloudy chilly snowy weather, tho' it snow'd verry little in the low lands, was stormy on the mountains wind N. W. -

MONDAY, MARCH 30th. I work'd on the mountain - helping Isaac Godfry get down wood for Mrs Street, Isaac had a yoke of Oxen. Hiram with my horses drew 4 loads from the foot Mount Pleasant to Mrs Street's door - Good sledding till we came to the low cleared lands - not the worst then - The snow is a foot deep in the woods. Messrs Duncan & Cooper finish'd dressing my Flax to-day. This days

Draw wood for Mrs. Street. -

17 work is 17 lb..8 oz. That which they dress'd previous to this amounts to 100 lb..0 oz. total one hundred - seventeen 117 lb..8 oz. My share being two thirds - makes without their part 76 lb..0 oz. Messrs Dewey & Bliss dress'd is 63 lb..0 oz. My share of which is 42 lb. Total of what they all dress'd is 180 lb.. 8 oz.

A verry cold cloudy morning - more pleasant P. M. clear in the evening it was hazy - signs of a storm, so cold as freeze in the shade at any time of the day.

18 TEUSDAY, MARCH 31. I kept the house till late in the forenoon before I concluded to go to work, however I order'd Hiram to follow me with the horses & sled, up to Mrs Street's wood lot where we soon arriv'd. I loaded the sled & sent Hiram down with it. Isaac Godfrey who was also working for Mrs Street, had a yoke of Oxen with him drawing wood from off the hill so as to be got at ~~by a~~ with the sled, had been at work some time previous to my being with him - the storm coming on verry hard soon made us load up our sled & return from the woods as soon as possible for the wind ~~(wind)~~ blew terribly & I fear'd everry moment when some of the limbs or trees would break down upon our heads - we had the good fortune to get safe home. - Hiram was untackling his horses at the time I came from the woods - the horses were soon in the stable from whence they have not removed since, except to water, (the expression applies to this day only) No out-door business was done during the remainder of the day. This day will be ever memorable on account of the terrible East strom which happen'd in Bennington & its vicinage. - The ground was frozzen during the night verry hard, the cold was so excessive to-day as to keep it from thawing in the least degree. The storm began early in the morning & continu'd without being verry tedious till toward the middle of the day; when it began to be verry furious, the wind making a tremendious roaring in the forrest & coming in terrible whirls & gusts against our houses & other buildings - (but they all liv'd thro it) seeming to menace them with immediate destruction - accompanied with a fine kind of snow which fill'd the air in everry dicrection - in this ~~storm~~ manner the storm continu'd till evening, when it abated, but did not entirely cease till some time in the night. It came either from the N. E. or S. E. which I'm uncertain - I shall call it an East storm. -

This day a storm commecs which lasts till the 5th of April

Thus has ended the month of March, in appearance more like the ending of December. During this month we have experienc'd pretty steady weather, it being pretty cold most of the time. I have hitherto suppos'd that I should be well provided with hay throout the season, but now I begin to fear how I shall come out in the end, for my hay-mow looks verry small to me, compar'd with the mouths into which it goes, & the time that is required for the pastures to grow.

105
58
57

18 I never like to keep my cattle with empty bellies but I am afraid I shall have to shorten their allowances considerably to make my fodder hold out.-
My whole stock look as well an any I have seen anywhere this winter, & I can pronounce them well winter'd. - Our flock has brot forth lambs out of which died. - As near as I am able to calculate I have drawn loads of wood to the door since

19 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1st. I work'd for Adam Waters - getting wood off from Mrs. Street's land. Hiram with the horses drew 5 loads to Adam's door. The sledding is complete from the mountain to the road. The quantity of snow that fell yesterday was considerable, before the last snow came on, it measur'd nearly 12 inches in many places in the woods. The weather has been verry rough - strong whirl-winds from N.W. kept the snow flying, during the whole day & was verry cold for this season, the day is the first in April, but it would appear from the weather to be the first of January. I do not make these remarks from my own experience of the roughness of the weather, for in the woods it was pretty calm, so that I can judge of the weather only as it appear'd to me in the open land where, as I said once before, the wind blew in terrible whirls, throwing the snow into vast drifts - many of them higher than the fences, cloudy. -

Work for A. Waters.

In speaking of the cold yesterday, I must acknowledge that, though it was far from being mild, I went too far, by saying that it did not thaw "in the least degree" for it did soften the top of the bare ground at mid-day. -

THURSDAY, APRIL 2d. Hiram & I in the forepart of the day drew 4 loads - of which Adam had 1 & Mrs. Street the other 3. - had to quit work about 2 in the P. M. on account of the storm. - It was a little cloudy & the wind was fresh from the S. W. this morning - it grew more & more cloudy till it began to snow, the wind still S. S. from that circumstance I had hopes of its turning to rain, but contrary to this, the wind veer'd about into the N. E. - snow'd verry fast till night - it then abated, but the wind was still verry high. - More snow did not fall in the same space of time thro whole of last winter, than fell this P. M. -

Draw wood

FRIDAY, APRIL 3d. The storm was so terrible to-day as to make it impossible for me to think of doing any out-door work, therefore I kept pretty close quarters, - took good care of the cattle. - Made a settlement with A. Waters - he's in my debt $3.30. The storm continu'd verry tedious from morning till night - the wind blew most furiously - heaping the snow that came before it, into little mountains as it were. It is in vain for me to

19 decribe this storm, they who are not eye-witnesses of it, can form but a faint idea of its fury. The wind according to my observation, blew from N. W. -

SATURDAY, APRIL 4th. The storm kept up thro whole of this day in the same manner as it did yesterday, tho less tedious because it was warmer; its direction about the same - the depth of snow increasing. - I hatchel'd flax in the A. M. - P. M. read Gordon's American war. My cattle were well look'd to. -

SUNDAY, APRIL 5th. I rode to Church on horse back, the road is not so bad as might be expected, after such a storm. In going from my house to the Church, we go cross lots ¼ of a mile or more, ie from Lewis's to Cook's. - I'am inform'd that during this late storm, Mr Dan'l Eldridge's barn was blown down - and some of his cattle
20 destroy'd by it. Mr. Elijah Robinson had his barn blown down - 2 men at the same time escap'd from it unhurt. - It continu'd stormy in a moderate degree, till toward noon, when it finally subsided after which it was quite calm & warm, the sun broke out betw the clouds at short intervals - wind North - snow settled. - I do not think it an exaggeration to pronounce the snow 2 feet deep on a level. -

MONDAY, MARCH 6th. In the A. M. my Father myself & Hiram remov'd 3 loads of fodder from Mrs Barn, one of which was straw, of a good quality too. - This fodder comes to us in this manner by way of Jonas, otherwise I should have had it in my barn in the first place. To reckon all the hay that I posses it might weigh 5 tons, with that and the straw we shall make out to carry our stock thro; though not quite so well as I could wish to keep them. - In the P. M. I drew 2 loads of wood from Mt. Pleasant for Mrs. Street, Hiram chop'd wood at the door and went to town just at night - return'd Gordon's American war & bro't home Peters's history of Connecticut. - When I was in the woods I did think of measuring the depth of the snow, however I know it is verry deep. The sun beat down verry warm from abo 9 in the A. M. till night - made verry sposhy muddy traveling pleasant & calm over head wind N. W. -

Drawing wood

TUESDAY, MARCH 7 Pruning apple trees was our business today. -

Apple trees

I have tho't it a strange thing to see snow drifts as high as the tops of the fences as late as the 25 of March, but what shall I think now when I see the whole country around cover'd with deep snow which in many places overtops the highest fences, where it was drifted by the wind. - The air was temperate - the sky hazy - the sun surrounded by a large bright circle - a great sign of a storm. - The snow melts away slowly - some sleighs are seen in the road.

Aspect of the country

20 WED'Y, MARCH 8th. Spent most of the A. M. grinding axes P. M. Chop-'d wood for Mrs. Street in company with seven al neighbors, who generously gave their assistance, and cut up a considerable quantity of wood for the fire place. -

Mrs. Streets wood pile cut up. -

Verry fair & pretty warm the snow melted off in brooks. -

THURSDAY, APRIL 9th. not MARCH 9th. NB. where I have written March 6th 7 & 8 - it should be April. Myself & son chop'd wood at Father's door. Hazy skies - mild weather. - Gave a note of ten dollars to Isaac Godfrey to be paid on 1st October.

Friday April)

FRIDAY, APRIL 10. Work'd at the wood pile. Fair - snow is dissolving fast. -

The first time I observ'd any spring-birds was last monday since that time the Robins, sparrows, blue-birds & yellow birds have become quite numerous & musical, which renders the season more agreeable and pleasant than it otherwise would be.

A note given to I.Godfrey

* This I have seen 7th of April.

21 SATURDAY, APRIL 11th. This morning my business caus'd me to go down to Neighbor Jewett's, from whence I return'd about 10 A. M. from that time till toward night I continu'd to work upon the wood pile - sun an hour & a half high I went to town with my plowirons to get them fix'd ready for plowing. The road between this and the meeting house is now verry bad, some of the way is water and mud - part of the way is snow & water. Fair clear sky. -

SUNDAY, APRIL 12th. Attended divine service, Nothing remarkable in the weather, the snow melts away by degrees. -

MONDAY, APRIL 13th. Work'd upon the wood pile. Sky hazy signs of a storm Cold freezing nights - days none too warm. -

TUESDAY, APRIL 14. Mov'd Mr. Lewis's family from the Fairchild house to Mrs. Street's - went to Congregational society meeting on business respecting the minster tax - Chilly weather - cloudy in A. M. in the P. M. clear - wind N. W.

Lewis is mov'd.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15. Appointed by the Governor as day of fasting &c. I went to Church on horseback - found the road exceeding bad. -

In the morning the wind was S. - ground frozen, cloudy and chilly toward night the wind was N. W.

21 THURSD'Y, APRIL 16th. A. M. & considerable part of P. M. in town on business - paid 7 dollars of my minister tax, while I was gone Hiram chop'd wood. - It had been a lowery day. - I have not more hay now, than I ought to have at the first of May. Our sheep graze in the meadow, but to no great advantage as grass has started but verry little as yet. -

Minister rate. -

FRIDAY, APRIL 17th. Late in the A. M. Hiram & I went up to the W.side of the sugar-orchard to mend fence. This fence has stood 13 years, it is made of bass-wood rails - was laid by one Sam'l Stanton & myself; in many places it is verry much decay'd the rails being either rotten or broken, so that it was a bad fence to mend, however, as the prompter says "it will do for the Present." - There was a verry large quantity of snow in the woods to-day - scarcely a green thing of the vegetable kind to be seen thro' out the whole forrest. In open land there are but verry few spots of grass to be seen. - Clear this morning, but was soon cloudy - wind South - the Brooks rise on that account - large snow-drifts are still to be seen and great pieces of ice are to be found in our meadows, but they will vanish; if the wind should continue in the South for a few days. - Mr. Elijah Fay jun'r gave me his note for 13 dollars this day.

The season

E.Fay gives me a note.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th. Mended fences in A. M. P. M. That is on Saturday 18th. beetled dung in the meadow. Let our cattle go in to the woods. - The snow melted off verry fast today - wind South - frost in the woods not out. -

22 SUNDAY, APRIL 19th. Did not attend public worship - spent most of my time in reading. The snow has melted away to an almost incredible degree within a few hours, where large snow-banks were seen 2 days ago the ground is left entirely bare, scarcly one spot of snow remains in open-land, and it will soon leave the mountain for it has rais'd the brooks which run thro' our meadow to an uncommon hieght, within the space of a few hours. They make a load and continual roaring over the rocks that meet their mad currents, ~~and~~ which adds much grandeur to the scene. Grass, I see, begins to show itself quite plain today, how pleasing it is to behold it, after such a long and severe winter. It was cloudy & warm - verry soft wind from the South. -

of the snow

MONDAY, APRIL 20th. My son & I split ovenwood most of the time, tho' I did some other work, such as measuring up the remainder of my spring & winter wheat, of the former there are 11 bushels of the latter 26 bushels, so that when I go to Troy (as I think I shall as soon as the roads are settle'd) I shall have a handsome load to

22 sell there. West mountain or Anthony is almost strip'd of her white robe, tho' it is but few days since it had scarcely a black spot in it. The two little brooks (now almost rivers) are much lower than they were yesterday.

The sky was smokey this morning, with a few clouds on it, toward noon the clouds grew black & thick wind S. W. About 2 in the P. M. we had short shower of rain accompani'd with a few peals of distant but heavy thunder. This shower brighten'd the colour of the grass verry much, and alter'd the temperature of the air - from warm to cold. - Foggy on the mountains. -

TUESDAY, APRIL 21st. In the A. M. I split wood, P. M. - went up to the S. end of the wheat field & repair'd the fence which divides it from the (Shugar) sugar-orchard, after doing this, I pick'd up number of articles necessary in time of plowing, and carri'd them to Major Norton's - here I staid till some time in the even'g waiting for my work -about 9 O'clock I got home. -

Wind blew up raw & chilly from N. W. - the ground was frozen pretty hard in the morning - brooks lower'd considerably - Cloudy - cold much less at night than in the morn'g. -

WEDNESD'Y, APRIL 22d. I was verry much indispos'd in the A. M., but grew grew a little better in the P. M. so as to be able to help Hiram (who had mended a fence in the A. M. between Hinman's Fay farm and ours) put up fences at the S. part of the farm.

Indispos'd

23 I was verry faint and weak at night, sun about an hour high - having been many hours without food. After supper I felt much reviv'd, my illness almost left me.

I verry much regret the loss of this day, for it was verry fair, and a good time for mending fences, so that if I had been well, Hiram & I could have dispatch'd this business verry easily. - The air was chilly - ground frozen in the morning - signs of a storm at night in being hazy. -

THURSD'Y, APRIL 23d. Altho' I had not completely recover'd my health, I did not desist from labor, for with my hoe, in the A. M. I clear'd the channel of the upper brook in the South meadow, so as to prevent its flowing the ground so much as it has done since the last floods, but after all I have done a great part of it still runs out of its old channel in such a manner as to emty in to the lower brook many rods higher up than it usually does. I shall here attempt to show the cause of the choaking up of the channel of the brook. About 10 years since I plow'd up about 6 acres of the South part of the farm

Description of a brook

23 and sow'd it with wheat. It is an excellent piece of land, the soil light and deep, & was verry little worn, part of it having never been plow'd before.

Thro' this field flows a large brook in time of high water in the spring (~~while the~~) Before the field was plow'd (was) it being pretty flat, the brook us'd to over-flow a great part of it, to prevent this, after I had done sowing, I plow'd a channel for it, supposing that it would flow thro that channel and not injure the wheat.

But how often do our plans prove eroneous! In removing one evil I caus'd another still greater. The next spring the brook came down thro my field and tore a ditch (where I had plow'd a furrow for it) about 12 rods long - from 4 to 5 feet deep and wide enough in many places to receive a cart. I have fill'd it up once or twice since but to no purpose, for every year it wears away more & more, it is now about 20 rods in length and generally four feet deep, much gravel & dirt have been wash'd on to the meadow by this means and no small quantity has been carri'd on this spring, as before hinted. It has injur'd the field amazingly - the field lies N. and S. the course of the ditch N. E. & S. W. - The natural course of the brook as it passes thro' the meadow. (pursues a verry) is verry winding so that it easily fills up. To prevent this I must have it ditch'd. - I have this evening heard from Mr. Erastus Taylor, who, in the month of February last agreed to hire to me to work on the farm, from the first of the present month till some time in Autumn; but contrary to agreement and without giving me any previous notice, he has hir'd to another man to drive a waggon pretending to be unable to work on a farm. I think he has not us'd me like a gentleman, for had it not been for my dependence on him, I might have procur'd a hand when they were to be had, now it will be a chance if I find any but worthless men to engage in my business. -

which had injur'd a favorite part of the farm

Erastus Taylor

remarks on him

24 plowing

Hiram has plow'd a small piece to-day. -in that field N. of the young orchard. - Cloud-wind high S. - rain'd a little before night

FRID'Y, APRIL 24th. In the A. M. my son & I mended fences along by the side of the lane which leads by Clark's orchard in to the road, it rain'd too most of the time, so that after we had finish'd the job we were oblig'd to go to the fire and dry our garments. P. M. a few heaps of dung were spread, the rain coming on I was oblig'd to go the business and retire to the house Hiram spent his time, while it rain'd reading the Aurora news-paper which he borrows, every week, of Col'n Fay. - It has been a lowery wet day, good weather for grass and grain. - wind South.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25th. This morning I rode up toward the S. W. part of the farm and drove off neighbor Norton's sheep (3 or

24 Hallanbecks Sheep. -

4 in number) from my wheat field. I turn'd my eye towards the E. and discovered 12 or 15 sheep belonging to Mr. Hallanbeck, on my rye.

I immediately return'd home & sent Hiram to drive off Hol'h's sheep, and inform Capt Norton about his; while I went to Brown to see if he would do the fence up, between my rye and the Dr. Fay farm, so as to prevent his own or Hollanbeck's sheep from getting on to my grain. Brown told me he should take care of his sheep, and that Mr. Hallanbeck must do as he pleas-'d with his, he was then riding by. I told him about his sheep, he said he was going over to Hoosack - didn't know how to spare time to go back then - but said if his folks could know of it, they would keep the sheep off. I accordingly sent them word. -

Hiram & I spread manure in the meadow - few of the heaps were without frost. I tried to stop the brook flowing the meadow so much as it does, but did but little service to it. Father has examin'd the winter-wheat in the field to-day, he says that we have not had any so badly winter kill'd for many years. The snow is almost gone from the W. mount'n - not a great deal to be seen on E. mount. A warm cloudy day wind South. -

Names of neighbors

I think it is proper here to mention the names of some of my near neighbors. Mr Lewis lives in Mrs. Street's house - Mr. Plank resides in Capt Hinman's old house - one of his tennants. - Mr. Hallanbeck lives in the house lately occupi'd by Thomas and Gates, it belongs to Hinman, with a small piece of land belonging to it, so that Hallanbeck is another of Hinman's tenants, - but none the worse for that. Mr. Brown who lately occupi'd the Fay-house - now lives in the Fairchild house he has bot the land belonging to it, and the Swift-farm for dollars - enough I think! -

1125 £

25

SUNDAY, APRIL 26th. I have not been to Church to-day. Last night it rain'd verry hard, but it has not rain'd much since, the clouds ran low - a kind of fine mist fill'd the the air most of the day - foggy on the sides of mountains. I expect to see things come forward pretty rapidly after this storm - such as grain, grass, trees &c, &c. Wind N. West - cool air. -

MOND'Y, APRIL 27th. I went with my son up to the W. side of the sugar orchard to mend that fence, the cattle having broke thro' it yesterday some other fencing was also repair'd this A. M. P. M. Hiram follow'd his plow, while I was busy about other matters. I have examin'd my wheat in the field today, and find where the snow blew off, that it is verry badly winter kill'd, but where the snow lay on it, it seems to be lively and green; My father thinks that the wheat would not have been kill'd so badly if it had been fed

Winter wheat

25 down last fall by calves or sheep, perhaps it might have prevented it, & perhaps it might not. I am sorry that I did not plow in the seed in stead of harrowing it in. I think if it had been plow'd ~~it~~ in, the winter would not have injur'd so much as it has, however it is so, and all that I might have done cannot alter it now. - Cloudy & foggy in forepart of the day P. M. pleasant - air temperate wind N. W. -

TEUSDAY, APRIL 28th. Hiram plow'd the whole day - finish'd his piece it lies on the north of the young - orchard - it has 3 angles.

My Father & I have this day fix'd places for the young calves & took them from the barn & put them in to the several enclosures which we had prepar'd. P. M. mended the fence round the pasture which bounds it on the S. meadow on the S. Wind South - temperate air - cloudy. - Pastures & meadows grow green quite fast. - Swallows are now amongts us. -

WEDN'Y, APRIL 29d. Last night two men, or more properly a man & boy lodg'd here - the man took breadfast & went off. the boy I talk of hiring. I shall say more of him in a day or two. In the A. M. the young man spread manure. Father & I mended fence on the right side of the lane as it leads from the house to the road. Hiram harrow'd over one field - that piece which he finish'd plowing yesterday - he plow'd a small piece E. of the house in the A. M. - This P. M. I spread manure with my intended hir'd man. This morning we mark'd a few of our cattle - turn'd them in to pasture - the cows go to pasture, but cannot live without hay. Verry cloudy wind high in the south. Goosebury bush is green.

A man hires upon trial but does not stay longer than the 30 of the month. -

26 THURSD'Y, APRIL 30th. In the A. M. I mended brush fence W. of the barn. P. M. I assisted Aaron (the intended hir'd man) & Hiram about getting out the manure which jonas left at Mrs. Street's barn, this work the boys had been doing in the A. M. it finally took us till sun about an hour high to finish the business - perhaps there were 15 or 16 loads of it, all which was carri'd on to our little field adjoining the tan -yard - here I had corn last year this year I'M going to plant it with potators. The Elm, willow and poplan (in the woods) begin to show their verdure.

observations on the Wheat fields

Wheat-fields and other fields of grain - meadows & pastures have become quite green, for some time our sheep have liv'd without hay, being allow'd to run in the meadow - to-day we turn'd them in to their own pasture. My man made me an offer to-day to work for me six months at 13 dolls per month -

26
Thirteen dollars offer'd to a hir'd boy which he refuses. -

this I told him was too much for me to give, especially as he was a boy (only 16) who could not earn but about half so much as a smart man, besides he was of a weak constitution & ought to have privileges which other hir'd men do not, ~~have~~, considering all things I offer'd him 8 dollars - but he refus'd. He came from Putney his name is Aaron Hoton - parents are said to be poor. -

Had a severe thunder shower last night, much rain fell. - verry showery to-day - some thunder wind S. some beautiful rain bows were seen just at night.

Spring wheat sown

FRIDAY, MAY first. I sow'd & plow'd in a piece of spring wheat some of which is quite wet. the same field that Hiram had plow'd a day or 2 before. - there are 2 acres in the piece on which I sow'd three busls of spring-wheat, this sort of grain grew verry well here two years ago - perhaps it may do well again this season. Cloudy - wind south.-

Wet weather

SATURDAY, MAY 2d. A. M. mended the shad-bone fence on the S. side of the sheep-pasture, P. M. work'd at it alone, father having been with me in the A. M.) and finish it altho it rain-'d so as to wet me before I could leave it Hiram in the forenoon had business down to Mr. Jewett's. P. M. he harrow'd part of the spring wheat wheat field with 3 horses - would have finish'd it had it been fair weather. The weather has been singular - forepart day some light shower wind apparently N. but in reality S. E. for the clouds came that quarter - about middle P. M. a heavy shower came on suddenly with some thunder, it lasted an hour or so. The ground is full of water, too wet to plow- grass & grain grow finely. - Aaron left me (this) yester'y morning. -

27

SUNDAY, MAY 3d. I have not been to the meeting to hear the preacher, this day, perhaps it might have been as well for me, but felt rather dull & heavy - the weather being raw & chilly. - I had no appetite for preaching. Last night it was verry cold & stormy - wind high N. W. - this morning the ground was white with snow - it lay in the open land till P. M. on moun'ns it stuck all day. Air cold - cloudy. -

Oats

MONDAY, MAY 4th. This morning I sow'd a small patch of Oats on the E. side of Ttracy-brook, the remainder of the A. M. I spread manure on the S. Meadow. Hiram had a three horse team & harrow with which he finish'd harrowing the field he left - Satur'y and harrow'd in those oats, by about 1 P. M., He did n't tackle his team again, but help'd my Father & I bettle dung in South meadow, it being so wet & rainy that we could not do much else. All the manure in this meadow is now spread, where this had been done, the grass looks verry lively, and so it does in other

27 parts of the meadow where the ice has not kill it.
On the growth of grass grain — In the ice spots the turf is of a redish colour, & there is not a small number of them neither, last winter having been verry remarkable for ice. Saturday I spoke about green fields of wheat, I must remark that where the grain surviv'd the winter, it looks lively & green, but there are large pieces of grain almost entirely ruin'd, mine is not so badly hurt as many others but it has a great many dead streaks in it, where the snow cover'd it, it is green, where it was bare it is dead. I shall spak of it again in the course of this month. -

Apple trees — Some appletrees I see, begin to show their new leaves - how pleasant it will be, when they are all cover'd with verdure! Yesterday Mr. Chandler (the man who came here with Aaron at first) call'd to see Aaron he tells me that the boy came away from a pretty good home - that his father was not willing to have him come away, says that Aaron is not posess'd of a very good temper, so that I'm glad that I haven't hir'd him, I paid him for what did, while he was here - He now lives at E. Dewey's. -

Frost. — Not verry cloudy in A. M. but P. M. it was rainy wet & cold - wind N. - Ground full of water - Last night it froze considerably - cold cold for May. -

28 TUES'Y, MAY 5th. I shall here make a list of the whole our stock -

Cattle

14	----------Cows
4	----------two-years-olds
8	----------yearlings
12	----------calves
7	----------horses four of them I stable & work. -
36	----------sheep & 20 lambs
81	

A. M. carri'd a couple of waggon - loads of horse manure in to the garden, drew a load or two of rails from the stock-yard down to the hog pasture, to fence out that pasture from the plow'd ground, these my father laid into a fence in the P. M. P. M. Hiram & I plow'd with two teams, the garden was plow'd. Father thinks it is not best to cart or waggon out any dung on to the plow-land because we shall be oblig'd to carry it across the meadow, which the wheels will cut up verry badly & thereby hurt the meadow as much as it will benefit the plowland. I'm of his opinion. -

White frost — White frost last night. Cloudy forenoon - P. M. clear some chilly breezes of wind - at night S. W. -

WEDNES'Y, MAY 6th. This A. M. I sow'd my flax and harrow'd it in

Flax sown Notions about it. — my father propos'd yesterday to put off sowing the flax till the next old moon, which would make it about a fortnight from this (~~time~~) time, - he says the flax seed will not grow any before that time.

28 I did not agree with him there, as will appar from my conduct this day. He had another notion this morning which was to rake in the seed, this would have been a slow & tedious job. I was quite averse to it, the seed is harrow'd in the rest I leave to the apperations of nature. He started another notion - to sow a small yard near the barn with barley. - this was also disagreed to. This A. M. Hiram finish'd the oat stuble in S. Meadow S. of the house, in the P. M. he & I work'd in the rain an hour or 2 mending fence on the S. part of the farm, so as to permit the cows to go in the W. pasture where the grass is pretty good, as they must subsist there or no where, their hay being now gone. - I put up a small piece of board -fence at home and that ended the days work. - Verry cloudy in A. M. cool. P. M. it rain'd moderatly - seem'd to come from N. E. was cold. -

Hay finish'd

THURS'Y, MAY 7th. I work'd at the business of drawing off stone from a piece of plow-land N. W. of the barn, till some time in the P. M. was then beaten off by the rain. - In the morning the air was chilly - snow on the mountains all the A. M. cloudy high wind from N. W. P. M. was cold & rainy, this cold weather keeps the trees from becoming green. -

Drawing stone.

29 FRIDAY, MAY 8th. A. M. Hiram & I boated off stones from the same field which we work'd on yesterday. P. M. Hiram plow'd in this field & I after spreading a few heaps of manure there, workin the garden, This morning it was chilly damp and uncomfortable, so that had I possess'd property enough (I tho't to myself) I should have kept in the house in stead of going in to the field to work; however when I had once got engag'd about my business, I felt warm enough. Toward noon the air grew warmer, but take the day throughout & it has been chilly & cloudy - dry wind from North. - ~~Turn'd my horses out to pasture~~

tho'ts on work

SATURDAY MAY 9th. I this morning got my horse tackle ready to plow with two teams, but was oblig'd to give up the matter, on account of its raining, took horse & rode to town to do some business with Col Fay - did not see him, he being gone from home. I return'd home about 1 P. M. the rest of the day I spent amongst my neighbors, with some of whom I had private business. With Mr. Jewett I had long conversation upon different subjects, amongst the many things which he communicated to me; - he told me the snow fell 2 feet deep in one of the Carolinas - in time of our April snow (vide March 31st - April 5 inclusive). This I rather doubt, Mr. Jewett takes no news-paper, & therefore may have been impos'd upon. -

Conversation with Mr. Jewett.

The weather has been really malancholly, It has snow'd most of the day on Mountains, while it rain'd in the low grounds verry chilly - did not storm any

29 Snow. a little before night - wind E. Verry bad riding. How unpleasant it is, to see the summits of the mountains all white with snow! ! ! -

SUNDAY, MAY 10th. I rode to Church - heard Mr. Marsh from the desk, After service, I had occasion to walk thro' my wheat field. I think it looks worse to me, than it has done at any time before; for when I view it at a distance, it appears to be cover'd with a considerable coat of wheat; but examine it closely & it turns out to be little else than grass, - The soil is so rich that it will yield something. I find some roots of Rye where the wheat is mostly kill'd which will in some measure compensate the loss of the wheat. It has generally been a pretty sure piece for wheat, but ~~it~~ has failed this year. In the morning the mountains white with snow - air verry chilly - wind northardly - a little squally - cloudy. - Currant bush is green - Elder also. Trees kept back by cold weather - grass verry short on the same account my cattle do not thrive so well as they did in the winter when fed on hay & straw. I hope for warmer weather soon.

On the wheat field.

Grass & trees

30 MONDAY, MAY 11th. My son & I had each of us a plow & team with which we kept ourselves verry busy - plow'd about 3¼ acres-in the field ajoining Hinman's farm on the N., part of it lies against the sheep-pasture, this field is to be planted - must be plow'd once more before it will do. My father in A. M. spread a few heaps of manure on the field - he has been quite laborious to-day. Did not enjoy myself verry well - had a fretful team. My old-Fay mare fool'd a fine stallion. Pleasant day, but cool - snow to be seen all day on Sunderland mountain - considerable frost last night so as to stiffen mud. wind North. - The bird call'd Bob-of-lincoln - I have not heard this spring before ~~this~~ to day. -

Plowing

Old fay mare. -

TUESD'Y, MAY 12th. I sow'd small piece of Oats - South of the house in S. meadow, the land being now drry. about 9 O'clock I went to work in the garden - continu'd here till noon. Hiram spent the A. M. upon the field of oats which I sow'd, he took more pains with it because it is seeded for mowing - a littl more than an acre in the field. P. M. We took our plows (after having spread some manure) & plow'd the little field adjoining Mrs. Street's back-house. - Verry pleasant - more like May than any day befor in the month, tho' it was frosty in the morning - it was temperate. -

Oats sown

frosty

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13. Myself & son were verry busy with our plows, going over the same field in which we were at work on Monday - a small piece of it remains to be plow'd; when that is done, it will be prepar'd for planting corn. Mr. Bliss has been gardening for me to-day, he completed the business befor night & went home; the women assisted in

30 Garden seeds

sowing the seeds. -
My father was verry laborious this day. - Some cloudy - warm more so than any preceding day this spring - wind in different direction. The verdure of Apple trees & some others on the mountain begins to be quite visible, grass will feel this weather. -

THURSDAY, MAY 14th. This A. M. with a boy & horse I furrow'd rather more than 2 acres, finish it time enough to plant a few rows before noon, P. M. planted with corn that part of the field which had been furrow'd father myself Hiram and Mr. Lewis's little boy were all employ'd in the business. - A. M. Hiram plow'd what we left undone yesterday in this field. - This day I hir'd twenty dollars & the interest thereof till the fifteenth of Nov'r next - of Mr. Joshua Gates.

planting

31

This A. M. it was hazy - wind blowing from the South and increasing its streng as the day advanc'd, P. M. the wind blew heavier the clouds thicken'd up verry fast, had a little rain just at night. - the flax & summer - wheat are just shooting out of the ground, trees grow green verry fast, this day has made great alteration amongst beach-trees. - Pastures verry short at this time.

Spring grain. -

FRIDAY, MAY 15th. The morning being wet & rainy so that I could do but little business at home, I rode to town, I carri'd with me twenty dollars in money, which I borrow'd of Mr. David Fay that day on which Jonas went out of town, it being on his & Ira's account that I borrow'd it. There was no certain time set when it should be paid; Mr. Fay said he would let me know when he wanted it. To day I saved him that trouble by paying him every cent, for which he would take no interest, saying that he never had taken more than 6 percent interest, he should by no means take any of an old friend, he said he had not wanted the money till then, that it had been as well in my hands as if it had been in his own. I must say that Mr. Fay has us'd me in a verry friendly manner, quite different from the course some men would have pursu'd in the same situation. When does a man want friends? Why, when he is in debt as I am, for that which he never enjoy'd a moment in his life, I am oblig'd to pay all Jonas's debts which he left unpaid when he went away, many of them are for mere trifles & many of them I am ignorant of, till the persons to whom they are due, call upon me for their pay. This tries my patience verry much, for I have but few resources to resort to, my wheat looks verry poor so that I must resolve to sell most of my stock to pay up these mothy debts. I expect to be much redus'd by next fall, however I shall not trouble myself much about it I know I have friends who will not forsake me in time of necssity. - The A. M. was wet and rainy till toward noon it then became

Borrow'd money paid to Col. Fay. -

My hay is now reduc'd to an armful, my horses live on grass.

Jonas's debts complain'd of

31 less rainy - cloud more broken, P. M. flying clouds from N. W. - verry pleasant just at night. - I return'd from town about noon, while I had been absent Hiram had been plowing, in the P. M. he finish'd this business by having run over that little field next the tanworks a second time, which bro't to 2 P. M., the rest of the time was taken up in planting it with potatoes, but did not complete it. I sold a young cow to Adam Waters - no price fix'd. I pasture for him. -

See Aug. 18 p 54

32 SATURDAY, MAY 16th. In the A. M. I was verry busy with my plow, furrowing out 2 acres of ground. I had it to cross furrow. Mr. Lewis's son rode the horse, this field had corn rais'd upon it last season, it joins Hinman's farm - is verry mellow easy hoing. While I was thus busied Hiram & Adam Waters (who work'd for me to day upon condition that I pay him in work) with my father, finish'd planting the little field with potatoes, & then came in to the field where I was & planted about half of it with corn before noon. In the P. M. this field was completely finish'd off, the corn being all planted with 3 rows of potatoes on one side & 2 on every other side, the whole field contains four large acres, most of the corn that is planted on it was roll'd in plaster. What was planted today Adam & Hiram cover'd with their hoes. My father has lent all his strength to assist in the business, he dropt corn, cut the potatoes in two & dropt them so that he was verry tir'd at night. All the potatoes which have been put in the ground today (including a small yard) amount to 18 bushels 11 of which were put on the little field. -

Planting finish'd

Verry pleasant morning, but the S. wind soon blowing up fresh it became hazy & cloudy, likelihoods of rain - would have been considerable warm had there been no wind. -

SUNDAY MAY 17th. Attended meeting in the P. M. had no priest, Mr. Marsh being gone to Williamstown. The weather was verry s chilly & lowery all forepart of the day - stormy on the mountains, A little before night the rain fell pretty fas was quite cold & uncumfortable wind N. E. Flax One piece of oats & Summer wheat have come up, so as to appear green. -

MONDAY, MAY 18th. Hiram & I were busy with the waggon carrying out the manure made at the horse stable. Nearly all my potatoes that were planted round the corn field & about a dozzen rows of corn I have manur'd by putting a shovelful of horse dung upon each hill, this is not my common mode of manuring, therefore I make particular mention of it. I believe we carri'd out 10 loads. - Verry cold the clouds ran low, foggy on Mountains - snow to be seen on them - some fine rain, sun scarsely

Mode of manuring corn. -

32 seen during the day wind N. W. Last night a good deal of rain fell. -

TUESDAY MAY 19th. After carrying 2 or 3 loads of manure into the garden I drew a couple of loads of rails from the upper part of the young orchard. P. M. with those rails we built short piece of fence to make a lane from the hogsty to their pasture, to prevent the hogs peeling apple trees
33 this done, next thing was to take down & put up again that piece of fence which runs along the left hand side of the lane as we pass Clark's orchard to the road, that end next to Hinmans I mowd a little east of where it stood before, My father got verry much engag'd while at work upon this job, he could hardly be persuaded to leave it before he saw it finish'd he was almost angry because they call'd him to supper, however I guess he found himself tir'd enough when he came to sit down, for he has been verry busy all day. Hiram & I finish'd laying up the fence which ended the business of the day

Snow on the mountains

Cold morning - saw snow on several mountains till nearly noon - in Sunderland it was most conspicuous tho' I saw it on Stamford mountains - & some E. of Shaftsbury - It was cloudy A. M., P. M. it seem'd to break away and grow warmer wind was N. W. cold at night expectaions of a frost. - Plumb trees are in blossom. Pasturing is pretty short, the farm I believe is overstock'd and I must sell off as many cattle as I can spare this season to thin the stock and pay my debts.

WEDNESDAY MAY 20th. I shall give no particulars of this day. Hiram plow'd Bliss's garden which made nearly a days work for him, being oblig'd to plow it twice, this more than pays Mr. Bliss for what he did for me in gardening (see p. 29) May 13th) Adam & Lewis had a team of me to-day to plow with, which pays Adam for his day in planting for me. My father & I planted about 3 bushels of potatoes on the little field next the tan-works, not being thick enough as they were first planted, P. M. overhaul'd the fence on the W. side of Clark's orchard, - Pleasant - cool morning wind in the W. some hazy. -

THURSDAY MAY 21. Spent considerable part of the day in gathering up the broken bits of rails, which we flung out of the fences on the E. & W. sides of Clark's orchard, when we overhaul'd them, also got several loads of Apple tree brush from the forementioned orchard, completed this business about the middle P. M. I then plow'd a little in the garden & and another small yard & had the horses turn'd out to pasture for they had not far'd verry well. Not much done besides what is mention'd. Calm mild weather. -

FRIDAY MAY 22d. A. M. mended the brush fence round Mrs. Street's pasture P. M. I was gone awhile down to neighbor Norton's. I was busy this P. M. but I do not think it important

33 enough to require any particulars. - Some showery in A. M. P. M. wind was N. - clouds broken no rain. -

34 SATURDAY MAY 23d. Early in the morning I went to Captain Norton's with a colt, which he dock'd about 8 in the morning I was at home again - my son got the sheep up in order to mark the lambs, which was soon done. I then fix'd Hiram off with a barrel of Cyder for Searls & a grist for mill. He return'd about noon, he went again just at night bro't home the grist. To-day I've poll'd & planted my beans planted several sorts of seeds, such as cum cumbers squash mush & water mellons, several sorts of beans, this was the business of the day. The trees on low land are generally green, butternuts, walnuts, ashes & blackberry bushes are now leaving out. Appletrees just begin to blossom. - Cherry trees & plumb trees are white as snow, peach trees begin to put out their leaves. Warm hazy day wind S.

Beans poll'd

Vegetation

SUNDAY MAY 24th. Attended meeting in P. M. In the morning it rain'd quite hard from the South, toward noon the wind began to blow verry heavy from S. E. - continu'd so for several hours, some fences were thrown by it, I had a cherry-tree split down by the force of this wind, However to - ward night the wind subsided in a considerable degree, which was follow'd by more rain, - rain'd a good deal in the night - air cold & chilly. -

MONDAY MAY 25th. Sent Hiram away in the morning with waggon & horses to move Mr. Sellen's family from the Scott house (a house which was built by Martin Scott) to Capt. Hinman's Fay-House, Hiram went 3 loads got thro' with the business about the middle of the P. M. Chief of my time was taken up in repairing the fence on the W. side of the yound-orchard - erected a pair of bars on that side, which will be of great use when I harvest my wheat & at other times. -

Sellon's family mov'd

Wet weather. -

Cold lowery showery weather - mix'd with a little sun shine wind N. W. Showers verry frequent but short. -

TUESDAY MAY 26th. A. M. Hiram with horses & plow help'd Mr. Selln plow his garden and door-yard - he was not till noon doing this - perhaps it might have been as late as 11 O'clock when he return'd with the horses. during that time I mend fences - work'd in the garden some. P. M. fix'd up some polls in the cornfield to keep off the crows - some of the corn just begins peep out of the ground - Spent a few moment with Cousin Abel Harwood - showing him ~~the~~ different parts of the farm, for which he took a walk with me round the South part of the farm - it seem-'d to be verry pleasing to him. Cloudy - warm S. wind rainy in A. M. - none in the afternoon - expectations of more rain. -

Plow for Sellon

35 WEDNESDAY MAY 27 The most important part of my

35

business in the A. M. was to go with a team & get a couple of back-stones as they are call'd to keep in the back part of the fire-place in order to save logs.

In the P. M. myself & son follow'd ditching in the S. meadow to straighten the course of the upper brook. It is a verry ncessary piece of work, becaus the brook naturally runs so crooked that it flows a considerable portion of the meadow, the channel having been fill'd with gravel which it brot from an upper field (see page 24th Sat'y. April 25) thro' which it passes - Our ditch goes on pretty tardy on account of our inexperience in the business & the want of tools. The weather was cool and wet several showers in P. M. - wind N. W. - Trees come forward verry fast now; it is observ'd by every one that they are very late this season, apple-trees I think may be said at this time to be in full bloom - a verry pretty appearance to be sure to see an orchard well fill with blossoms, it is encouraging to the farmer who posseses it. -

Wednesday 4th May 1808. -

page 23d April 23d

My spring grain - as Oats, Flax, & summer wheat wear a verry promising appearance; as to winter grain, the prospect is poor - Rye is verry thin - wheat grows poorer every day. - I shall not speak of it any more until I harvest it, A great many fields of this grain are entirly ruin'd, so that I do not consider myself more unfortunate in this respect than my neighbors. -

Promising appearance of spring grain.

THUSDAY MAY 28th.

No other work but ditching. In the middle of the day I had business down to neighbor Norton's - was gone some time, but did not see the man with whom I wish'd to speak (Mr. John Duncan) for I was inform'd by Mr. Norton that he had left his work there to go home & plant his corn; but it seems he ~~had~~ did not, ~~been at home~~ for his son came here to-day & said he had not seen him. - I warrent he was doing well enough - the world generally slides easy with him. - Cloudy - wind pretty fair in N. W. - middling warm in the A. M., but in the P. M. it was really quite uncufortabble - the wind ceas'd in the evening but the air was verry chilly & expected a frost in the night which did happen in many places from the appearance of the leaves, but not so as to injure fruit much. -

Ditching

A frost in many places. -

36

FRIDAY and SATURDAY MAY 29th & 30th.

Rode to Troy on horse back - staid at Doty's inn Friday night - did my business with my merchants there & return'd home sun about 1½ hour high at night - found myself much fatigu'd - verry much bruised off. - Waggoning is dreadful - roads are full of deep ruts. Saw a man from Suffield in Connecticut, who says that winter grain along that part of the country, looks well - after he left the low lands & began to ascend the hills & mountains he said winter grain was destroy'd from thence to Hudson river. - The weather has been verry good these two days tho air pretty warm, to-day - some cloudy - signs of a storm -

Journey to Troy. Wheat. State of the roads in that part of the country. -

36 Hiram has been helping Mr. Gates plant his corn - finish'd pretty late Saturday night. - People are verry late in this business, many fields remain to be planted now, the season is certainly verry backward - grass in the meadows, is short & wants a stronger colour - trees on the upper part of mount Anthony are still naked. My corn is coming up. -

SUNDAY MAY 31st. Elder Stark from Pownal tarri'd here last night, I and most of the family went to hear him preach - I think he did well to-day

Elder Stark

he & his lady after supper mounted their horses for home

This morning the air was damp & verry chilly wind in the N. W. grew warmer toward night - wind S. E. -

MONDAY JUNE 1st. Hiram & I finish'd ditching the upper brook for the present season - it is in 2 pieces - 1 about 6 rods in length the other 12 - the whole is 18 rods. This ditch will be of great utility to the meadow; on account of its preventing the water from flowing (on to) over a considerabl quantity of ~~meadow~~ ground as it did when it ran in the old channel, which had been verry much choak'd up with gravel. Just at night I received a letter by the Post-office from brother Jonas, which brings verry heavy news - it announces that brother Ira lay at the point of death - all the rest of them were well. - The wind was E. or S. E. - chilly, cloudy & rainy - had it been fair to-day I should have wash'd our sheep. -

Bad news from Ira

TUESDAY JUNE 2d. I ash'd my corn to-day - Hiram assisted about in the A. M. - he went to town in the P. M. - when I had done ashing corn I rode up there to see how they carri'd on. - Not much difference between this & other training days. -

The air was cold - In the morning the wind came from the S. before which came low clouds & a fine mist - it lasted so but a short time, for the wind veer'd about into the N. W. after this it was cold & cloudy - Sun set clear - a rain-bow was seen at night. I think my corn has come up well - seems to do well - crows & squirrels have pull'd up some of it - I hope it will grow out of their reach soon. - Ate 3 apples which grew in 1806. - Yesterday it should have been notic'd. -

37 WEDNESDAY JUNE 3d. Hiram and myself in the A. M. finish'd ashing corn - on to 4 acres I put 16 bushels of ashes - a small single handful to each hill of corn. In the I join'd my flock of sheep with Capt'n Norton's flock - proceeded on our way to Gen'l Safford's bridge - within a few rods of which we met Smith's & Atwood's sheep - these sheep & ours immediatly mix'd together - had much trouble in parting them, & getting them in to the yard prepar'd

Wash Sheep

37 for the purpose of catching & throwing them in to the river. Capt'n had 22 sheep - I had 32 - al tother made 54. Norton sent his son John & Isaac Godfrey to assist. On my part was myself, son, Mr. Lewis & Adam Waters - Godfrey & Lewis caught the sheep for the rest of us to wash, as fast as we wash'd them, they were permited to go on shore and mix with the same flocks from which they had been so lately separated, which caus'd much confusion - some of them stragled off in the pastures, but were found again & join'd the other sheep. Five flocks of sheep were mix'd together on Atwood's farm, from which I was lucky enough to get 14 and drive them home, the other 18 with a number of lambs, will remain there till morning. It was fairly dark when I got home - altho' it was early in the P. M. when I started away with our sheep, so much for being hinder'd. - Forepart of the day was cool and clear; but in the P. M. it was warm & hazy - wind I think in the S. W. -

THUSDAY JUNE 4th. The first thing was to go & get my sheep that I had left in Atwood's pasture - found them all & drove them home. I work'd on the highway - had my son & a span of horses with me - Lewis, Adam & myself repair'd the bridge in Street's hollow. I wrote a letter to Brother Jonas. -

Highway work

Weather - fair - warm & pleasant. - Butternut trees have blossom'd - Strawberries are in full bloom; the top (of) or upper part of mount Anthony just begins to be green, before this season it is generally in its brightest state of verdure. -

FRIDAY JUNE 5th. Myself & son work'd by ourselves on the highway - not to the greatest advantage neither, for I had only a span of horses & stone-boat, with which I drew earth into gullies or hollows in the path.

Most of my work was done on the little hill this side of Hinman's & on the Dr. Fay hill. - A warm S. wind bringing with many clouds - likelihoods of rain. -

SATURDAY JUNE 6th. My Father I together with one pair of shears have shear'd all our flock except 4 (of) Father shear'd 14 & I 16 - I was considerably fatigu'd at night; it is a sort of business which I always dislik'd; and therefore knew but little about it, so that I must not censure myself for not doing a greater days work than that which I perform'd to-day; for it exceeds any that I have ever done before at the same kind of business. Hiram work'd in the garden some. - Cloudy & rainy A. M., P. M. cloudy but no rain warm S. wind. - Apple-trees have just shed their blossoms. This weather is favorable to the growth of grass. -

Shear sheep

38 SUNDAY JUNE 7th. Attended divine service - had no minister. - The forepart of the day was quite warm, but in the after noon the air was cool'd by refreshing breezes from N. W.-

38 MONDAY JUNE 8th. This morning the sheep which were not shear'd on Saturday, had their fleeces taken off by my father; I assisted about it, so that it was late before I could get in to the corn-field, (see last Saturday) where I spent the rest of the day in plowing among corn & hoeing. Mr. Sellen ow'd me labor for moving his family &c (see May 25th & 26 page 34) his 2 oldest sons have hoed for me to-day; they are pretty good boys to work; but they do not hoe their corn faithfully particularly the youngeter one, (Cebina) whose work I shall be oblig'd to do over again; such help as this, I do not want.

Hoeing Lewis's son work'd here likewise, he hoed his corn pretty well, - is a good boy to work; it was he & Cebina that rode horse for me. - Sellen's oldest son's name is Major - who is about 12 - & the other about 10 years old. -

I sold sheep to-day, 2 lambs for dollar a piece & a sheep for 2 dollars. - The man who bo't them, has agreed with me for 8 more. Beans & potatoes have made their tops or vines visible. The black-cherry is in bloom. -

Warm & a little cloudy - smokey - wind verry variable. -

TUESDAY JUNE 9th. Continu'd hoing, had Lewis's boy & Sellen's eldest son in the A. M., besides ~~them~~ these in P. M. Sellen himself & his 2d son work'd for me. Some men love to tell of what they have done, but hate to prove it by acting the same over again. Is not this true Mr. Selln? -

This day was verry warm - sky hazy - some hot breezes of air blew up just at night, that were almost insupportable. The heat of the weather was not less during the night than in the day-time. I do not recollect a night in whch I have suffer'd more ~~with~~ from hot weather.

WEDNESAY JUNE 10th. The 3 boys mention'd yesterday & day before came again to help me hoe. I in the first place went & corrected as many of the rows that were hoed by the boys the 1st & 2d days, as I could before it rain'd. The 2 youngest boys I sent off. (Cebina Sellen & Parker Lewis.) Their hoeing offended me verry much. When the rain came on & while it lasted Hiram & I retir'd into the house where we spent our time in reading the 1st day of Burr's trial. The shower was of short duration; when it had ended, we enter'd the garden & work'd there till about the middle of the P. M. - from that time till night I work'd in the cornfield. Sellen's eldest son work'd here two or three hours over a half day. -

39 For some time in the morning the air was verry muggy & warm had every appearance of the approach of a heavy thunder shower; but it seem'd to have spent itself before it reach'd us; because it lasted but a short time. After that it remain'd cloudy - with now & then a short dash of rain - wind brisk from N. W. air

39 grew cooler all day. - Mr. Doty* - his wife eldest daughter and good and faithful hir'd servant GEORGE - driver of his master's carriage which convey'd them hence, are now at my father's! ! ! These words have just pop'd into my head; slavery - hide thy hedious head. - Thou who makest unnatural distinctions between men! - We transplanted our cabbages. -

THURSDAY JUNE 11th. This A. M. I ended the business of hoeing corn, had Sellen's sons who help'd do it. Perhaps I'm the first in town to finish hoeing the first time or "weeding" as it is usually term'd; some people having but just done planting. P. M. Hoed a few small patches about the house - the beans in the garden. Sellen's boys were not here in the P. M. Hiram went to town a little before night, to get some Newspapers. - Not much cloudy - air cold - high wind from N. W. -

First hoeing done.*

FRIDAY JUNE 12th. A. M. Parker Lewis rode horse for me to plow amongs potatoes in the little field next the tan works.

After plowing them it was a small job to do the hoeing - which I copleted about noon. Cool & cloudy - some signs of rain. Wind South. - P. M. Father myself & son work'd on the highway - repair'd the bridge a few rods S. of the former residence of Dr. Fay - plow'd out a ditch. I shall charge the public with the use of a span of horses half the P. M. - Wind N. W., P. M. - cold. -

Highway work

SATURDAY JUNE 13th. A. M. Father myself & Hiram work'd on the high road between Hinman's & Mrs. Street's had the horses during the whole time drawing dirt. P. M. I went with waggon & horses down to Hatche's mill from whence bro't timber for building a new set of Barn doors. -

Cool air cloudy - wind from N. W. -

Saturd) SUNDAY JUNE 14th. I went to meeting - no preaching.cold but fair - wind high from N. W. till eve'g when it subsided & became warmer. -

MONDAY JUNE 15th. I rode to town verry early this morning, in order to get a pair of plowirons fix'd & some horse shoeing done - did not return home till late in the A. M.

* of Troy - his servant man is white - his wages are 8 dolls. per month.

40 Begin plowing for wheat

In the P. M. having prepar'd every part of the harness I tackl'd 3 horses & plow'd fallow on the hightest part of the E. end of the farm - N. of the field in which I had wheat last year & where my rye now is. - Verry clear in the A. M. but cloudy in the P. M. signs of rain wind verry variable sometimes N.

40 & sometimes S.

TUESDAY JUNE 16th. I tackl'd my team & plow'd about 3 hours & then turn-'d out on account of the rain, - After the rain had ceas'd work'd a while in the garden - A considerable part of the P. M. I spent in town. Hiram prepar'd for a journey to Troy tomorrow. Cloudy & riany in the A. M. wind South - P. M. the wind came about into the N. W. - was quite cool - but little rainy. -

WEDNESDAY JUNE 17th. & THURSDAY & 18th. These two days I have been verry busy but have made little show. I work'd in the garden - mended the fence which incloses it & other fences on different parts of the farm. Hiram & Miss Nancy Doty on the morning of the 17th set off for Troy in a waggon - Hiram arriv'd with his Grandmother from thence at 5 Oclock of the 2d day - had no misfortune - The 17 was a verry cool fair day wind N. W. But on the 18th it rain'd in the A. M. - continu'd cloudy P. M. pretty middling warm. -

Hiram goes to Troy

FRIDAY JUNE 19th. I & my son work'd for Mr. William Norton at hoeing corn - first time after planting - his corn was quite small.

It was warm & cloudy - wind South. -

SATURDAY JUNE 20th. We had news from Hopkinton, by a man who came from that place & who put up here last night; the purport of it is, that Ira has been in a state of delirum most of the time from 25th. of April till he came away which was on the 12th. of this month, however he was growing better when he left him - is about to make a journey to this place for his health - his friends all advise him to adopt that expedient. Perhaps we may expect to see him here in a few days. Now I rejoice to hear that my brother is living - but how much greater my joy would be to hear of his having recover'd so as to be able to provide for his family. His misfortunes are mine & my misfortunes are my own - I shall have no winter - wheat this season - verry little if any spring - wheat - some oats - perhaps a middling crop of rye & some corn & potatoes. - A great deal of money to be paid next fall & no produce to make it with. - It is impossible for me to describe my present state of mind perhaps I'm too much cast down - there may be some way provided for my deliverance which I cannot discover - perhaps it will work out for my good. I shall resign myself entirely to the will of providence - If my lot be hard, I must submit to it cheerfully. -

Good news from Hopkinton.

41

If pure necessity had not drove me to it, I should have suspended my personal labors today, for I was more fit to be on the bed than (~~to~~) behind the plow, notwithstanding my illness did a pretty good days work at plowing. I ate nothing during the whole day

41 except breakfast - had a kind of sickhead-ache. -
Pretty warm - at the close of the day a considerable quantity of rain fell - wind N. W. -

SUNDAY JUNE 21 Attended meeting as usual. Warm but fair wind South. -

MONDAY JUNE 22d. Hiram & I did but little more than a half days-work on account of the rain, it set in about noon & lasted till sun about 2 hours high, I then tackl'd & plow'd till the close of the day I think we have plow'd about an acre. Hiram, while it rain'd read the Philadelphia Aurora. It is now a verry growing season - grass & grain flurish. Mount Anthony is in his richest apparrel - everry tree, from its base to its summit, being in full leaf. In the A. M. it was quite warm; but in the P. M. after the rain it was verry temperate, wind - A. M. S. P. M. - N. W. - My Father sat out on a journey to the N. part of this state in order to meet brother Ira on his way home - it was about 11 in the A. M. when he started. -

TUESDAY JUNE 23d. Did a pretty good day's work at plowing. Mr. Doty from Troy arriv'd here this P. M. (Mr. L) A fair day. -

WEDNESDAY JUNE 24th. Follow'd my plow pretty steadily till sun about 2 hours high, I then put out my team - knock'd off my plowirons in order to carry them to the blacksmith to be sharpen'd, but it happen'd so that they were not carried. Mr. Smedly of Williamstown on his way home) with whom I had considerable conversation at noon. I enquir'd of him how wheat look'd in the N. part of Vermont where he had been, he said it was much better than in this part of the state tho' at best the crops of that grain in those parts would be moderate. It was cloudy - cool - wind South. -

Wheat in N. part of Vermont

THURSDAY JUNE 25th. I sent Hiram to Major Norton's to get the plowirons sharpened and one shoe set on one (~~to the horses~~) foot of his horse. To have this little job of work done, he had to be hinder'd there there the greatest part of the A. M., it was about 10 O'clock when he came home. I spent my time to verry good advantage weeding garden. P. M. Hiram & I hoed for Mr. Sellen. Mr. Lomis was there too. - This morning the air was verry cold for the season it continu'd quite cool most of the day, the came out of the clouds a little warmer an hour or 2 before night. Cloudy wind S. -

Hoe for Sellon's

FRIDAY JUNE 26 Hoed for Mr. Sellen - myself & son - Mr. Lomis was on again - did a pretty good day's work - Sellen had my little mare the whole day to plow amongst corn Warm & smokey - fair wind N. W. -

42 Mr. Blanchard who call'd here a few days since

42

Mr. Blanchard carries letters to Hopkinton. -

staid here last night, he has been down to Nine Partners, he is now on his return to Hopkinton, by him I have sent a letter to Dr. Hopkins & one to brother Jonas. -

SATURDAY JUNE 27. I am now plowing the W. side of my fallow - go round a verry large piece. My father & brother Ira arriv'd here about noon. Ira is considerably fatigu'd and low in health.

Ira arrives here. -

The weather was considerable warm - and cloudy - wind S.

SUNDAY JUNE 28th. It rain'd in the morning pretty hard for 3 or 4 hours the rest of the day was cloudy & warm wind S.- I did not attend worship. Ira was a good deal unwell - crazy at night, Dr. Swift visited him to-day. - My father thinks it not best to turn the cattle in the wheat-field, as has been talk'd of, but to let it stand & see what it will amount to. -

MONDAY JUNE 29th. I return'd to my plow again this morning - kept it going without stoping much - A. M. - In the P. M. - plow'd about an hour after tackling the team - was oblig'd to leave them in the gears & run to the house with all speed to avoid the rain - a sudden shower having overtaken us. The shower commenc'd with great violence and lasted about an hour & a half, after that I plow'd till nearly sundown. - Air was heavy and damp - wind South - sunshine & cloudy alternately - Some thunder - warm during the day - cool at night. -

TUESDAY JUNE 30th. Business the same as yesterday. Good weather for my work it being cool & cloudy - wind N. Air smokey.-

Hoeing the 2d time

WED'Y JULY 1st. This day I hoed my corn a 2d time this season. I had work enough due to me to enable me to finish hoeing a piece of about 4 acres in verry good season at night. Mr. Wm. Norton & hir'd man, Isaac Godfrey - for myself & son - (see p 40 19 June) Mr. Sellen & his 2 boys - one of (which) them rode horse. The morning was remarkably cold & cloudy, in the after part of the day it became more pleasant, but held out to be a verry cool day for this season, wind N. W. -

Plowing continu'd

THURSDAY JULY 2d. I follow'd the plow & 3 horses - part of the day without Hiram to lead them for me, for I found I could manage my team quite well alone, therefore I sent him away to work in the garden - about 3 in the P. M. -* Here I deem it proper to speake of vegetation, ‡ it is impossible for me to describe the gloomy appearance which so many fields that were sown last fall with wheat and destroy'd during the winter, now

Vegetation

42 present. - Perhaps from our field we may get a little of some thing like wheat, but it will be of little or no consequ

*See April 27 - p-25th.

43 when compar'd with what might have been produc'd by this field. - The field is cover'd with weeds - many scattering bunches of Rye - chess & some wheat - most of the latter is in the S. W. corner; it will yield good pasturage for I find grass will become rank there, notwithstanding other things that sprung up. - Of Rye it now appears that I shall have a half crop. - I had despair'd of having much spring wheat till of late, it now begins to assume a more thriving appearance. Oats and flax are doing well. I have no reason to complain of my corn or potatoes - beans & garden vegetables - for they all grow rapidly. - Grass is thin & short in the meadows - like wheat, it suffer'd amazingly from the hard winter. - Trees are now in full leaf & are never more beautiful than at this season. - It was so cold to day that during the A. M. I did not suffer any inconvenience from wearing the whole of my common apparrel - in short it was a cloudy cold day - wind N. W.

Appearance of the wheat field. -

Trees

FRIDAY JULY 3d. I completed the business of plowing fallow - sun about an hour high; otherwise nothing of much importance occur'd during the day. - It was a little cloudy - wind South - air temperate. -

Plowing green sward finish'd.

SATURDAY JULY 4th. - INDEPENDENCE - A. M. Hiram and myself work'd in the garden till near 11 O'clock - no more work done today - P. M. I join'd with a large circle of democratic republicans in celebrating the birth-day of the national Independence. Every thing was carried on with decency. - For the proceedings of the day see Smead's paper of July 6th. - The weather was cloudy pretty warm & some rainy wind South - Thunder. -

SUNDAY JULY 5th. I heard Mr. Marsh preach - Flying clouds - cold - wind pretty high from N. W.

MONDAY JULY 6th. In the A. M. I hoed that piece of potatoes adjoining the tan-yard, Lewis's son rode horse for me & help'd hoe.

P. M. tackle'd a team of three hors's & plow'd a piece of the lane which lays between the S. meadow & old sheep-pasture - some plowing was done this side of there - this was done in order to mend the road. I did not do so much plowing as I would have done if my father had not wanted the horses to go down to Hill's machine. I kept busy about this road till sundown - Fair & cool wind N.- Squirels are verry numerous this season.- White (is) clover is now in bloom -

Domestic highway work

43 flax has just put forth its flower. -

TUESDAY JULY 7th. The greatest part of the day I work'd on the lane toward night I rak'd a part of some daizy that my father had mow'd in the Y'g Orchard - there is a considerable quantity of this weed in that section of the farm, which will when mow'd make pretty good fodder.- Saw my young cattle - all in verry thiving condition.- Temperate & clear - wind N. W. -

same

Brother Ira gains in health every day - rides a few miles each each day - seems enjoy himself quite well.

See a description of the field in book 2d p. 43d Sept. 8 - 1806.

44 WEDNESDAY JULY 8th. Myself & son work'd for Mr. Wm. Norton - helping him hoe his corn a second time. - No rain but some sprinkling & many for it - being cloudy - wind heavy in the South - Neither verry warm nor cold. -

Hoe for Wm. Norton. -

THURSDAY JULY 9th. Mowing daizy in the young orchard was the business of this day. - Before this time I ought to have remark'd that my summer-wheat has, within a few weeks reviv'd in a considerable degree; I think now that I shall have some wheat there. Of winter-wheat I shall be able to harvest a few bushels on the ground where I had barley & flax last year - there's a prospect of getting some wheat from the great field W. of it (see Book No. 1 - May 1806.-) Cloudy - wind S. some rain. -

FRIDAY 10th. & & SATURDAY 11th. Business was of no great importance tho' I was not idle. We clear'd the young orchard of daizy - saved it all for fodder - did not mow it so much for the sake of profit as for stopping its progress - pick'd up several small heaps of hay that my father had mow'd. Saturday in the P. M. I carri'd Mr. Sellen's barrel of cyder to him which he lately bo't of me. Pick'd up a load or 2 of old wood & that completed the days work. - Weather pretty uniform these two days middling warm and cloudy wind South. - Flax is in full bloom. Cherries & Currants begin to ripen.-

Flax in blossom

SUNDAY JULY 12th. Attended a thin meeting - Verry warm - some signs of rain - wind strong from the South. -

MONDAY JULY 13. We have begun to hoe our corn the 3d time was hinder'd by the rain which happen'd in the P. M. it made the corn so wet & caus'd the ground to be so heavy

Hoeing the last time. -

44 that we did not return to the field, but finish'd our days work in the garden. - It has been a warm day wind South - during the shower which was short, a considerable quantity of rain decended, attended with thunder. -

TUESDAY JULY 14th. It was a verry good day for business tho' pretty warm & some cloudy. Myself & son did a tolerable days work at hoeing. My corn exhibits a verry promising appearance at this time. Garden looks well - cabbages have been destroy'd in a great measure by worms, those that have surviv'd are in a thriving condition. I sold 6 of our young cattle - a pair of young oxen 3 years old at 30 dollars & 4, 2 years old heifers at 40 dollars - all in cash.

WEDNESDAY JULY 15th. Business the same as yesterday but not so much done on account of it's raining about the middle of the day which put us back an hour or 2. It was verry cloudy the whole day - at night sun an hour high had a short thunder shower - air cooler afterwards - wind South. -

Corn in a flurishing condition.

45 British insult

Altho' I did not join the meeting on Saturday - my sentiments perfectly agree with their resolutions (see Smead's paper of July 13th.)

I copy the following from the Aurora of June 30th

From the National Intelligeneer - an official account. - On Monday last the U. S. frigate Chesapeake of 38 guns left the capes where there lay at anchor a british squadron consisting of 3, 2 deckers & one frigate of 38 guns. As she pass'd this squadron without molestation, one of the 2 deckers the leopard put off & went to sea before the Chesapeake. When the latter came up with the Leopard, at the distance of about 3 leageres from the squdron, her commander Captain Humphreys, hail'd the Chesapeake, & said he he had a dispatch to deliver from the British commodore in chief (meaning admiral ~~berke~~ Berkely of the American station). Commodore Barron supposing it was a dispatch from Europe, hove to, when Capt. Humphreys sent on board of her a letter covering an order of Admiral Berkely to take from the Chesapeake three men alledged to be deserters from the Melampus frigate, and designating them by name.

Commodore Barron repli'd by letter that no such men, as nam'd in Admiral Berkeley's order, were on board, and added that his crew could not be mustered for examination by any other officers than his own. This answer was couch'd in terms of politeness. It was no sooner receiv'd, than a broadside was discharg-'d from the Leopard. The crew of the Chesapeake were at this time not at quarters, considering the Leopard a friend & Commodore Barron not contemplating the pos-

45 sibility of dager so immediately after leaving the capes. No other attempt was therefore made to fight her than than the discharge of a few stragling guns, while the Leopard repeated 3 or 4 more broadsides; when the Chesapeake struck her colours, after having 3 men kill'd & 18 wounded. -

A boat was then put off from the Leopard with an officer who demanded 4 men - Commodore Barron said he consider'd the Chesapeake as a prize to the Leopard - the Captain of which vessel said no - that his orders were to take out the men, which having executed, he had nothing further to do with her. Thus dismissed, she return'd to Hampton Roads, where she now lies. She receiv'd in her hull 22 round shot, her fore mast & main mast were destroy'd, her mizen mast greatly injur'd, & her standing rigging & sails verry much cut.-

Of the wounded 8 are consider'd dangerous, & 2 have lost an arm. Commodore Barron suffer'd a contusion, receiv'd from a splinter, which is not serious. No other officer is wounded excepting midshipman Broon & he but slightily.

Carried to page 47.

46 THURSDAY JULY 16th. About 1 O'clock P. M. or rather later I completed

Finish hoeing

the business of hoeing corn. Mr. Sellen's oldest boy work'd here about half the day, except what he did, Hiram & I have done our hoing ourselves. I have had no boy to ride horse & have suffer'd no inconvenience from it neither, for I put leading lines on my little Doty mare & found she went better so, than under a rider. The morning was foggy & warm - cloudy A. M. - P. M. about 2 O'clock it rain'd a little after which it broke away & became quite warm & pleasant. - After I finish'd hoing I went down to the E. part of the town in my waggon on business - about sundown when I reach'd home. -

FRIDAY JULY 17th. A busy day with me, but not much done after all -

Preparations for haying. Lewis & Sellon. -

I mended my waggon rack. In the P. M. Mr. Lewis came here & work'd in the barn. Mr. Sellen about middle of P. M. began to work on the grind-stone in order to put it in order for grinding - he left his job unfinish'd - leaving the rest to be done tomorrow. - Pretty warm & cloudy wind South. -

SATURDAY JULY 18th. Mr. Lewis & myself work'd upon the barn I have new

The barn repair'd by Lewis & myself.

moddel'd some part of it - put in a couple of braces at S. end to support the great beams - have shingl'd the S. side of the roof - or more properly patched it - sun about an hour high I rode to town. Mr. Sellen hung my grind stone completely. Ira is gone to Troy to-day, by him I have sent 20 dollars to my creditors in that vilage. Rain'd some in the morning - after that it continu'd cloudy & warm - wind S. - Elder Stark & his lady came here just at night to

46 tarry with us. We miss'd 6 of our best lambs to-day - suppose they were kill'd by the dogs. -

SUNDAY JULY 19th. I attended public worship. Mr. Stark preach-'d. - It thunder'd in the early part of the day - had a considerable shower between 8 & 10 O'clock A. M. (but) after that we had no rain of any consequence, but it continu'd Cloudy & thunder'd frequently, was verry warm. - Fine growing season. I'm fully convinc'd that the dogs did kill those lambs which we miss'd yesterday, for I found several of their carcasces in the pasture where we kept the sheep - it was in the pasture back of the rocks. I have taken them thence & put them up s. of the meadow on the fallow ground. -

Six sheep found dead. -

MONDAY JULY 20th. I have begun haying today - hir'd Adam & Worthy Waters thro the season, they have been mowing to day. I have been busy in other business. A poor hay day - being cloudy & some rainy - latter part of the day wind was N. - not so warm as it was yesterday.

Haying begun.

TUESDAY JULY 21st. Worthy & Adam mow'd pretty steadily during the A. M. After spreading the swaths that were mow'd yesterdday, my son & I join'd with them in mowing till noon. In the P. M. we raked together nearly all that had been mow'd. - Weather tolerable for haying - warm & cloudy. -

Worthy & Adam Waters hire to me. -

47 WEDNESDAY JULY 22d. A. M. I prepar'd my waggon for drawing hay I had to repair it, having had two of 2 of the stakes broke out. Adam & Worthy mow'd in the S. W. corner of the S. meadow and mow'd the swail in the plow-field. Besides mending the waggon, I air'd the hay which had been raked yesterdday. In the P. M. nearly all the hay that had been mow'd in the hither part of the meadow, was drawn in to the barn. I think in that part of the meadow, it produces about as much hay as it did last year. I us'd the pitchfork & Worthy loaded. Adam had the nose-bleed considerably this P. M. he raked hay. Hiram rak'd after Waggon. We were threaten'd some with rain toward night. Cloudy, wind S.W. -

THURDAY JULY 23d. My business was retarded in some measure by the rain which fell last night & this morning, however soon as it had ceas'd (about 8 A. M.) we went to mowing clover & pursued the business till noon. Adam was not here this A. M. After dinner Adam & Worthy resum'd the work of the A. M.; myself & Hiram went to work amongst that hay which they mow'd yesterday A. M. It was not long befor I was oblig'd to call Adam & Worthy to raking this hay, for it was likely to rain, the hay was imperfectly dried but I chose rather to rake it up so, than to have it lie entire=

Clover

47 ly open to a storm. When this job was finish'd it was near sun set no more was done this day. - Rainy in the morning - pretty warm remain'd cloudy after the rain. About the middle P. M. it began to thunder & dark clouds menac'd us from the S. but we had only a slight sprinkling, the main body pass'd off E. of us, wind S. W. -

FRIDAY JULY 24th. We finish'd mowing the clover & raked it up into upwards of 60 cocks. The hay in the S. W. corner of the S. meadow & in the swail, after it had been air'd, was drawn in.

mow'd

In that corner of the meadow before mention'd there is about an acre mow'd, it produces much less this season than formerly; the swail was much easier to mow, this year than it has been, because the grass was not so thick & lodg'd so much; perhaps I may say it yielded 15 cut of good hay. Pretty good hay weather - warm. -

SATURDAY JULY 25th. This A. M. we work'd verry hard - Adam & Worthy did nothing else but mowing - I had to open some hay, otherwise I was with them till noon. We laid down a handsome piece tho' it was ordinary ground to mow over - grass not thick, nor verry thin. The piece lies adjoining the W. side of Clark's orchard - E. & S. of the corn-field - greater part of it lately seed down.

Brought from page 45. - Nothing evinces in more stiking colors the insolence of Captain Humphreys, than his immediate return after this outrage, to the Capes, where he now lies with the other ships of the squadron. -

48 Brought from p My father's birthday.

My Father this day enters his 73d year. - In the P. M. we all rak'd together awhile, till Ira had brought the horses from the pasture, then the boys left me raking & went to drawing clover. They had drawn in 3 loads & I had got the hay raked into wimows & had begun to cock it up; when, with not more than 15 minutes notice, one of the most violent showers of rain commenced instantly & continu'd without cessation for an hour & a half - it came over the mountain from S. W. One load of clover remain'd behind open to the rain except 3 or 4 cocks hastily thrown together before the shower; there was 1 load of that which we had rak'd would have done well enough to ~~d~~ put into the barn,it was with a few hundreds of other hay cock'd up, the rest all lay in the wimow thro' the shower. Befor the shower nothing verry remarkable happen'd with regard the to weather - it was cloudy & warm - some thunder wind S. W.

A verry sudden & violent shower.

SUNDAY JULY 26th. I heard an animating discourse deliver'd by Mr. Rathbone of Hoosack. The hay that was not cock'd up

Mr.Rathbone

48 yesterday was spread about to-day. Fair & pretty warm - some flying clouds A. M. wind N. W. but toward it veer'd into to the S. W. -

MONDAY JULY 27. After having mow'd awhile in the swampy part of S. meadow S. of my house, we went to work with that hay which we mow'd last Saturday - about 2 in the P. M. I saw the last load of it go into the barn, it was not quite so dry as I could wish, but I tho't I would not venture it out any longer. We drew in about half a load of what we mow'd to-day; the rest of it is cock'd up. - To end the labor of the day, we began to pull flax. - Corn is tasseling out & grows verry rapidly. - It was quite clear from clouds in the morning, but they soon began to rise before a brisk S. wind which kept us looking out for rain all day, however we had no rain to-day. -

TUESDAY JULY 28th. Before breakfast this morning we improv'd the time in pulling flax, but the rain came on & put a stop to the work, till noon. P. M. we pursued the business again till sun about an hour & a half high, when a kind of fine misty rain which lasted (for) an hour or so, made the flax so wet that we quit the work & did no more at that or any thing else to-day. I have said that it rain'd in the A. M.; in the P. M. the wind was brisk from the S. - clouds went over our heads swiftly toward the N. & soon began to form a dark thunder cloud in the N. W. before it could reach us it had almost spent itself, for we had only a squall of wind from N. W. attended with a triffling rain. -

Flax is pull'd. -

WEDNESDAY JULY 29th. We mow'd in the A. M. till about 9 O'clock & then pull'd flax till noon, 2 P. M. completed the business of pulling flax. (see May 6 p 28) The flax is of a good (~~length~~) length & pretty even - some of it is rather coarse, bad to pull because it did not stand uprigh, being much twisted about by heavy rains. -

49 Two small loads of hay were carri'd in to the barn & what was mow'd in the morning - rak'd & cock'd ready for a rain. That part of to the meadow in which we were at work to day, is contiguous the orchard - S. & E. of the house - perhaps it produces nearly as much hay as it did last season. - Signs of rain - cloudy temperate - wind in the south. -

THURSDAY JULY 30th. Adam mow'd down a small piece while Worthy was gone to Sam'l Robinson's jun'r to borrow a cradle. He return'd with one, he & Adam have been harvesting rye to-day - the quality of which, I shall speak of at another time. Our calves being lousy, we bro't them up this morning, & wash'd them with tobacco-juice - 12 in number; This was no small job, because some of

Beginning of harvest

49 the calves verre verry springy & requir'd some strength hold then - perhaps it took about a 1½ hour of our time, I then went to work amongst the hay - airing that which was left out last night, in the P. M. Ira & I carri'd it into the barn in 2 loads. Hiram & I rake about half that hay which was mow'd yesterday morning - I mow'd a few swaths on the S. side of N. meadow & that completed my days work. Cool - wind N. W. flying clouds - had a small dash of rain just at night - but not to damage anything. Ira works a little every A. M. - spends the rest of the day in riding, shooting, reading & mending old harnesss. -

FRIDAY JULY 31st. Worthy cradled a considerable piece of Rye which Adam rak'd & bound & Hiram & I stack'd, withe the exception of a few shieves. Before I went to work with the grain I took 2 loads of hay in - barn. Previous to our stacking the rye, my son & I reapt a few shieves; The quality of this grain will be noticed in another place. - Nothing uncommon in the weather - cloudy & cool ~~warm~~ wind South. - This month has afforded some verry pleasant weather. -

SATURDAY AUGUST 1st. Brother Sam'l Robinson (who I sent for yesterday) came on with his cradle, in good season this morning. He & Worthy (who had borrow'd Dr. Swift's cradle) cut down 6 acres of rye - Adam & I rak'd and bound it, as it fill from the cradle.

Sam Robinson jun'r. works here. -

Had their cradles been in tune, they would have done much more but they were hinder'd more than an hour, by being oblig'd to repair doctor Swifts cradle. Hiram carri'd together & set up the shieves with out putting on the caps, which was done by all of us at the close of the day. - The atmosphere smokey & warm - a little cloudy wind N. -

At present I have mow'd 6 acres in the N. & 9 acres in the South meadow, which altogether, as near as I am able to judge has produc'd 14 tons of hay. The clover this year turn'd out quite ordinary - was mix'd with other grass considerably (see p 47 July 23-25.

SUNDAY AUGUST 2d. Went to meeting & heard Mr. Marsh preech. Many signs of rain - cloudy & verry warm - thunder in some places - a small dash of rain here. -

50 MONDAY AUGUST 3d. We again enter'd the rye field, but with one cradle only. Mr. Robinson not making his appearance here according to his promise - I expect his affairs at home prevented the fulfilment of it. In the A. M. Worthy cut down about 2 acres - Adam rak'd & bound after him. Hiram & I reapt some which we bound & stack'd, as we did that which was cradled before we went to dinner, because it appear'd likely to rain. - We commenc'd

50 the business again immediately after dinner, but did not get so much done by a good deal as in the fore-part of the day ~~A.-M.~~ on account of its raining, however a considerable pice was cut down before we left the field, which was about an hour before sun set - No grain was left in the gavel, swath, or shief, all was stack'd. -

A. M. wind brisk from the S. - cloudy - P. M. - wind in the same direction - with a drisling rain, which finally bro't on a hard rain - air temperate. -

TUESDAY AUG'T 4. This day about noon Worthy cradl'd the last clip of what rye I harvest this season - in the same field in which I had what last year. (see p 10th Feb. 26th. 1807) Adam, who had not been in the field in the morning came on early in the P. M. & rak'd & bound the most of what had been cradled in A. M. while we were at dinner - about the middle of the P. M. the whole was stack'd. I have omited till now to mention that Hiram & I reapt in the A. M. This rye is full middling as a crop for this year, tho', compar'd with the crops we have some years, it can hardly rank so high as that the kernel is plump & heavy, so that I what have is as good as any I ever had before in that respect. -

Finish cutting the rye

Quality of this grain. July 26- p. 126. -

When we left the rye-field, each one took his sickle & march'd into the field where I sow'd wheat last year, finding that nothing could be done here to much advantage, there being but little wheat, which was beaten down in such a manner that it would have cost more than it was worth to save it, we all quit the field & went home & wound off the days work by mowing. In the evening Mr. Lewis agreed with me to let Adam and Worthy go to-morrow & help him harvest his rye, he is to pay me for it by helping me as much again about haying. - A considerable quantity rain fell last night - it rain a little while this morning - continued lowery & dubious till nearly noon, P. M. wind turn'd from S. into N. W. - flying clouds. -* See June 20 p 40th - also p 29th. May 10th p 25, Ap 27th.

Wheat spoken of.

WEDNESDAY AUG. 5th. Adam & Worthy work'd for Lewis. - Myself Ira & Hiram finish'd mowing the piece which we begun upon yesterday P. M., and spread the swaths in the A. M. A little past 12 O'clock we had a small dash of rain, which put a stop to hay-making a short time, while the rain was drying off the hay I ground a couple of scythes, when I found it would do, I went to raking, ~~again~~ but I only

Adam & Worthy work for Lewis. -

* see May 4th p 27th.

51 had time to put a few cocks together before another shower came up, which wet the it so much that it did not get dry enough to rake any more of it to-day; the last shower was attended with some thunder - it came

51 from S. W. - The days work was concluded by mowing a few swaths in the N. meadow.

THURSDAY AUG'T 6th. We mow'd till the dew was off in the morning & then went to work with the hay in the S. meadow - it was mow'd ~~monday~~ Tuesday & Wednesday - a piece which lies adjoining the oat-field - mow'd off even with the whole N. side of that field - in general the grass is thin upon it. - some of it is swampy & some of is dry & hard - on the former it produces pretty stout meadow-hay, on the latter its productions & are scanty - ought to be plow'd & dung-'d in order to make bear much. - We exerted ourselves to get the hay rak'd up, because it thunder'd from a cloud which hung over mount anthony, it was all raked & nearly all of it rolled up, & one or 2 loads had been drawn to the barn, when an unlucky accident happen'd which for a few moments caus'd verry anxious feelings in me. The horses in ~~passing~~ attempting to pass a miry piece of ground, got stuck & one of them fell down, so that they were entirely disabled, in order to relieve them from this awkward situation, we were oblig'd to unhitch from the waggon & draw it out by hand which was done in a short time & the horses hitch'd to the waggon again, from thence they went safe in to the barn. Tho' we were hinder'd a little by a short dash of rain, yet all the hay was carried in to the barn. - Beside getting up this hay in the P. M. some mowing was done in N. meadow. -

FRIDAY AUG. 7th. The hands mow'd till a shower of rain came up attended with some thunder, it commenc'd about 8 & lasted till near 10 A. M. during that time a considerable quantity of rain fell. In the morning Mr. Lewis Adam began their days-work, but in consequence of the rain they did no more for me till late in the P. M. when with Worthy they mow'd down the last piece in of grass the N. meadow. At the close of the day myself & son poll'd in a few hundreds of hay that lay near the barn, it being so likely for rain, I tho't it verry improper to risque hay out, when it would any way do to go in. Mr. Duncan borrow'd my waggon & horses this P. M. to carry his wife from hence to pownal, had it not been so, I should have waggon'd in my hay. It has been pretty warm to-day with much thunder all around us, but after the first shower in the morning, we had no rain, excepting a few drops which fell from a cloud as it pass'd off N. E. - wind S. W.

Lewis works for me.

SATURDAY AUG. 8. Altho' I had 3 acres of hay down in the N. meadow & the weather quite uncertain; we mow'd a large piece in the S. meadow & had the swaths spread by 1 in the P. M.

52 After dinner every one exerted himself to rake

52

Mr. Lewis work'd here to-day

up the hay in the N. meadow, lest it should get wet, we had it compleatly cock'd by the middle of the P. M. & then began upon that in the S. meadow, which we were oblig'd to abandon, after having rak'd only 10 or a 12 cocks, on account of a shower of rain.

A terrible shower.-

Lewis again to-day.

Heavy & frequent thunder

In the early part of the day it thunder'd in the S. & shower passed on every side of us, till at last one came from the S. W. which rain'd as fast (mix'd with some hail) as ever I saw it before for the space of half an hour, it is impossible for me to convey an idea of its fury, it did not ease raining till some time in the evening - the brooks were very high for a short time, & the meadows look-'d like a sea. The shower came up about 5 o'clock P. M. attended with thunder, it has thunder'd more within 24 hour, then I have known it before during the present season. -

SUNDAY AUG. 9. Heard Mr. Marsh from the desk. - The air was temperate & a little ting'd with smoke - a few clouds. - wind S.

MONDAY AUG. 10th. Our attention was taken up in drying & getting up our hay - we got in all that which was in the S. meadow with the waggon & Adam & Worthy bush-'d in a considerable quantity from the N. meadow - in spite of our most spirited exertions we were oblig'd by the rain to suffer about 60 cocks to remain in the meadow - we left off work about 5 o'clock P. M. Mr. Lewis's son Parker work'd for me this P. M. & did well. - In the forepart of the day the clouds were low thin & broken - wind N. W. - pretty warm - about noon it appear'd likely to rain, but at that time it rain'd only a short time & but slowly - the sun came out again pretty hot; about 2 o'clock it began to thunder from two clouds, the one in the S. W. the other in the N. W. it appear-'d verry probable for a time that those clouds would meet & shower upon us, but they pass'd off to the N. & S. only sprinkling us a little, some verry heavy thunder N. of us. After various movements among the clouds, it began to rain here about 5 o'clock & continu'd till near sunset & then ceas'd wind N. W. -

Great exertions are made to secure the hay. -

Bad weather for haying

TUESDAY AUG. 11th. I examin'd my flax this morning - found it quite wet, open'd the tops of the bunches that it might dry. Worthy this A. M. cradled down the winter wheat that grew on the Tracy-field - it is poor indeed being verry thin, the kernel is plump & bright see May 4 p. 27, May 29th. p. 27 June 20th p.40th.

Adam was not here in the A. M. in the P. M. he was here. This P. M. we spent in drying what hay we had out & putting in to a stack - we calculate it at about 3 tons. Worthy was stacker.

52 the N. meadow is now clear'd of hay. -
Last night it rain'd considerably - verry lowery during the A. M. in the P. M. it clear'd off quite pleasant.

53 WEDNESDAY AUG. 12th. In the A. M. Worthy cradled the spring-wheat. Myself, Adam & Ira mow'd the swail in the field (see B 2d. p. 43d Sept. 8th Book 2d See p. 47th. Sept. 15th.) & there turn'd my father's wheat, raked & bound the wheat which Worthy cradled yesterday A. M. P. M. Worthy & myself (wh) waggon'd in all the wheat at two loads - from the 9 acre field we have got 160 shieves of wheat mix'd with rye & from the Tracy field we had 213 shieves more, this is our wheat harvest for this year. My Father has spent about a week in doing it and labor'd verry hard too.

Wheat harvested which amounts to 2 loads.- Father went over the largest field.

When we had done with the wheat, the flax was drawn up in 2 loads & stack'd near the barn, which ended my labor for this day. Adam cradled a small piece of oats, (see May 4 p. 27) Ira has done a pretty good days work for him, he & Hiram rak'd what we mow'd in the morning, just at night. Air smokey - some flying cloud.

THURSDAY AUG 13th. In the morning we mow'd a few swaths while Worthy was cradling that piece of oats in the S. meadow, which I sow'd on the 12th. (6)th of May - see page 30th. we rak'd & bound the spring wheat this A. M. - it was a verry tiresome & slow job, there but little wheat & that verry short, when it was cradled so much of it was crinkled down that we have saved only about 2 thirds of a verry poor crop its production this season is far different from what I had 2 years ago when I had 48 shocks of excellent spring - wheat, all that I had now went in to the barn at one load. (see May 1 p. 26th.) That hay next to Street's Tan-work went in next - then the oats which Worthy cradled in A. M. were raked & bound & set up Dutch fashion ie two rows set together from N. to S., the days work was compleated by raking what we mow'd in the morning & cocking it up, except a little which was rather too green. We quit work early on account of its raining; we have had no hay weather to-day, it has been cloudy and the woods have roar'd with a heavy S. wind in the evening it rain'd quite hard. -

Spring wheat verry poor. -

FRIDAY AUG. 14th. During the A. M. we labor'd verry hard at mowing in the richest part of the S. meadow , where it was dung'd last fall, the grass turn'd out verry heavy. About 2 O'clock in the P. M. I dismissed Worthy during the remainder of the day, because I deem'd imprudent to mow any more, except the little that Hiram I did afterwards, in the face of such bad hay weather. It has been verry lowery during the day clouds rain low, foggy on the mountains, it would sometimes ~~rain~~ for a few minutes, rain in a kind of

This P.M. Worthy has his time in consequence of bad weather)

53 fine mist & then cease again, so it has been during the whole day. -

SATURDAY AUG. 15th. It was rainy this morning, however we mow'd a small piece, & then concluding that there would be no hay-weather, I went to town to join in the celebration of the anniversary of the memorable 16 Aug. 1777. I march in the procession to the meeting hous, where an excellent oration was deliver'd by Mr. Haswell - I return'd on to the hill with the procesion, the sun shining out I found Hiram & came home & turn'd all my hay. The forenoon was some rainy & lowery - clouds low. P. M. it was quite warm, flying clouds, wind most of the time S. W. -

Attend the cellebration of the 16th of August '77)

54

SUNDAY AUG. 16th. This day I had all that hay raked & cock'd which was mow'd Friday A. M. about acres in the piece, my brother Ira, Hiram & Adam Waters & myself did most of it. Worthy assitsted some, perhaps an hour or more. It was mere necessity that oblig'd me to labor to-day it is what I have never done before in my life. -

It was cloudy & smokey pretty warm. -

Labor continu'd. -

MONDAY AUG 17th. There remain'd this morning 6 acres of the upper part of the S. meadow, to be mow'd of which 4 acres were mow'd by Mr. Lewis & Adam, who did no other business except assisting about getting up a few oats. Mr. Lewis has now paid me for Adam & Worthy's day, at work for him. see p 50 Aug. 5th. Worthy myself & Ira with the horse-sled drew from the meadow all that hay which was mow'd the last week - Worthy built a stack, besides doing what I have just mention'd, we rak'd up what they (Mr.Lewis & Adam) mow'd in the A. M. & raked & bound & drew into the barn these oats which grew on the E. side of Tracy-field. The weather was good. -

TUESDAY AUG. 18th. The last standing grass in the S. meadow was mow'd by about 9 O'clock A. M., the rest of the day was spent in getting up the hay in that meadow, the last load top'd off a stack. There are only 2 stacks. I put more hay into the b barn than I usually do on account of such a small quantity of grain. This day I finish'd ~~haying~~ off haying except mowing a few bawks. Adam will work for me no more this season, he is paid for his work in a cow which he had of me last spring (see page 31 2 last lines). Good weather. -

Haying is completed

WEDNESDAY AUG. 19th. I mow'd bawks in the rye-field A. M. while Ira was packing away rye. In the P. M. I did that business myself. Worthy & Hiram have been drawing in

54 Worthy's time is out & receives his pay. -

rye to-day. Worthy's time was out that he had agreed to serve me in, he demanded 18 dollars for 1 month, which was paid to him before he left my house, he is an excellent hand to work, be it said to his praise, I have had few or none better. Pleasant weather, air smokey. -

Hay'g & harvesting done. -

THURSDAY AUG'ST. 20th. I saw all my grain & hay safe in the barn we collected several hundreds from bawks to-day. Ira work'd pretty hard. I shall make a statement of my crops on Saturday. - It was cloudy & rain'd a little just at night.

Plowing

FRIDAY 21st. & SATURDAY 22d. These 2 days I have been plowing, on the field on which I shall sow wheat this fall, with 2 span of horses. Hiram with one & I with the other. Hiram had to go to Pownal Friday A. M. to carry Mrs. Duncan home.

55 Yesterday the wind blew up smartly from the S. & it was cloudy - at night it rain'd some ie in the night. This morning it was verry foggy on the mountains, some fine mist or rain descended from the clouds, which were quit low, it continu'd verry cloudy during the whole day the wind blew up cool from N. W. -

168 sks of rye. -

According to rough calculation, my rye this year amounts to 168 shocks, which was produc'd on about 16 acres. The wheat shieves were not counted. -

SUNDAY AUG'ST. 23d. P. M. I attended meeting (in the) no preaching Mr. Marsh being unable to attend. It was rainy this A. M., P. M. it was pleasant, chilly & cold to a high degree for this season wind N. W. -

Capt. Hinman's fence mended

MONDAY AUG'T. 24th. The fore part of the day I labor'd verry hard, mending a piece of fence which belongs Capt'n Hinman, it divides the S. end of the Fay farm from the field where I had wheat last year & rye this year. Before I mended it, the condition of it was verry poor, my cattle broke thro' it yesterday & enter'd a corn-field in which they did some damage I was determin'd that they should not go there again therefore I repair'd the fence, tho' it belongs to Capt. Hinman as much as any other fence within his farm blongs to him - I took his own rails to mend his fence with. He had ordered it to be done, but I knew if he should do it himself that the work would not have been thorough, & perhaps my cows, having had a taste, would again break thro' & do more damage than before, which determin'd me to do it myself so that I might put some dependence thereon. -

My father work'd work'd with me till nearly noon.- A. M. Ira & Hiram plow'd. P. M. Ira was unwell

55 & Hiram was oblig'd to attend training & I plow'd with one only. Pretty cool in the A. M. wind. P. M. was warm. -

TUESDAY AUG. 25. Plowing was the business - two teams - Smokey air. This evening I attended a republican caucus at the State arms tavern. Col'n Fay made an excellent speech, in which he spoke my sentiments much better than I could have done it myself. among other things he said, "he was as sure as he stood upon that floor, that a number of the leading characters on the federal side, were for taking the government out of the hands of the people" &c. Major Norton was nominated representive to the assembly, other State officers were held up, such as Gov'r Lieut. Gov'r & council same men that were supported by the republicans last year Our meeting broke up some time in the evening. -

Attend a caucus

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26th. ~~I finish'd plowing my fallow-ground over a 2d time)~~ Hiam begins to complain of a distemper which prevail all over this state & a considerable part of N. York. It comes on like a great cold, accompannied by chills & hoarsness in in the throat, it goes by the name of influenzy, most of my neighbors have been verry sick during the last week but are now recovering. My family has hitherto escap'd this disease, but it now seems to be coming on amongst them. The weather was warm & cloudy - smokey - signs of rain.

Influenza rages. -

56

THURSDAY AUG'T. 27th. I finish'd plowing my fallow-ground a second time. liklihoods of rain. -

FRIDAY AUG. 28th. Myself & son were both of us rather indispos'd however we thresh'd some rye in the A. M., P. M. Hiram gave out & left me to thresh alone. I felt better than I did in the A. M., there was not much done, notwithstanding I was much fatigued at night.
It rain'd this morning, was pretty cloudy during the other parts of the day. -

Hiram is sick. -

SATURDAY AUG'T. 29th. I winnow'd that rye which was thresh'd yesterday it measur'd 3 bhls & a little over! ! P. M. I rode to Pownal with Mrs. Harwood (found) Hiram was so unwell this day that he did nothing at work. Weather fair and not verry warm. -

Ride to Pownal

SUNDAY I attended meeting in Pownal, Mr. Rathbone preac'd. I found brother Stark quite unwell, he says he is much better than he has been, is now

56 gaining & will probably get over it in a few days. Mrs. Harwood & I return'd home this evening. Weather verry warm & smokey.

MONDAY AUG. 31st. Ira & I plow'd about 4 arcres with 2 horse teams Hiram thresh'd 6 shocks of rye. My father has been verry busy to-day as well as several days before in destroying willow brush in the meadow besides some others. Warm in the A. M. with many signs of rain, about 1 o'clock it thunder'd & rain'd & rain'd some & held quite cloudy for a considerable time the N. Wind blew up & dispers'd these, quite warm air smokey. During this month there have been many short short & frequent showers of rain, which verry much incommoded our haying business; on this account it is, that I have put up some of my hay when it wanted more drying. I believe if I had begun haying a week later than I did, I should have had more and better hay for it, because a great part of my grass has grown since the first of this month. Corn has had a most rapid growth since the first of July, and I believe it may be said also of other vegetables, that the months of July and August have given them their chief growth, tho' September is yet to bring them to maturity. -

Father's work

Observations on the preceding month)

Isaac Godfrey married
to widdow Greenman
on Sunday evening of Aug.
1809. -

57 SEPT. 1st. TUESDAY Plowing was the business in the A. M. - in P. M. I attended election. There was a verry full meeting of the freemen of Bennington. There was no small exertion on either the federal or republican side for carrying its points, howevever the quids & feds made out so well as to elect Wm. Henry representative after going round for him a 2d time, there being no choice between him & Martin Norton, who was the republican candate. 1st time going round, Henry had 175 & Norton 166 votes 10 scattering how they stood the last time in regard to the No of votes I am unable say. I voted for Isreal Smith Gov'r. Paul Brigham Lieut. Gov'r. the same List of councellor's which serv'd in the legislature last year. - In this town Smith had votes for Gov'r. & Titchenor

Election

The air was chilly with a stiff breeze of N. W. wind.-

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 2d. I follow'd my plow in the A. M. but in the P. M. I was taken sick so that I did no business of any kind. Hiram who had thresh'd some in the A. M. took my team & plow & work'd with them in the P. M. Ira has follow'd his team verry steadily all day, but he finds himself quite weary when it comes night. Cloudy - wind S. liklihoods of rain. -

Taken ill of the influena)

57 THURSDAY SEPT. 3d. I follow'd my plow in the A. M. with Ira, P. M. Ira plow'd alone & finish'd plowing the ground on which I am to sow wheat, a 3d time. there are about acres of the ground which I am going to sow with rye, that I shall leave plow'd only twice, because I think it is of no use to plow the land more than twice for rye, I know I tried it three years ago, & I had as poor a crop of rye after it as any I have had for some time before. I do not suppose that merely the plowing of it the third time, was the cause of it - but I would argue it is unnecessary, & that the rye will grow just as well without as with 3 times plowing. This P. M. Hiram & I thresh'd some wheat with flails. I felt unwell, did not do a great deal. Pretty pleasant weather air some smokey wind N. -

Remarks on plowing. -

FRIDAY (Aug.) SEPT. 4th. We work'd at the business of ditching. I was considerably indispos'd. Cloudy. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 5. Altho' I was quite unwell & hardly capable of performing any labor whatever, yet I did a tolerable day's work at (at) the same kind of business which I work'd at yesterday. Yesterday & to-day we have made upwards of 20 rods of ditching, which will be of great service to the S. meadow. The air was damp & chilly - cloudy cloudy wind N. W. -

SUNDAY SEPT. 6 I have experienc'd more sickness to-day than I have before in one day, for many years, however I was not confin'd to my bed or room but walk'd about considerably. Pleasant weather, cold nights & warm days. -

Verry sick. -

MONDAY SEPT 7th. Ira & Hiram with 4 horses thresh'd 200 shieves of rye. I help'd them take away the first flooring of straw, the 2d they left on the floor ready to be taken off in the morning.

58 My health was better to-day than it was yesterday tho' it was by no means return'd to its natural state, I suppose it to be the influenza, which has been about so much among the inhabitants, that afflicts me. I rode to mill this P. M., coming home, I espied my sheep in neighbor Brown's corn. I went immediately & drove them out. I found that they had been in before, & had done considerable damage. Now I expect to have some trouble in settling this business because the sheep broke thro' his own fence, & I have frequently warn'd him of the situation of his fence. The wind was S., cloudy & likely for rain. -

TUESDAY SEPT. 8th. Ira & Hiram thresh'd 200 hundred shieves of rye with the horses. I help'd them about it some, my

Threshing

58 health returns slowly. Father is now verry sick with the influenza. - Verry rainy all day & considerable part of the night cold & chilly - wind N. W.- I think this storm is unfriendly to the growth of indian corn. -

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 9th. my indisposition still continued upon me so

Indispos'd that I did no sort of work. my father is also quite sick Ira & Hiram winnow'd & measur'd the rye which they thresh'd on Monday & Tuesday, they say that it amounts to 16½ bushels to 26 shocks 10 shieves it yields much better than I had calculated it would, when I harvested it. Last night the rain storm held on verry severe, but before morning it clear'd up & has been fair thro' the whole day, a verry brisk & chilly wind from N. W. -

THRUSDAY SEPT. 10th. My sickness increases. I'm afflicted with the (dis) dysintary, not to such a degree as to be confin'd to the house, for I ride about considerably, in going to mill & among my neighbors. I have a poor appetite for food - verry restless at night - being troubled with frightful dreams & am oblig'd to rise several times during the night. Ira & Hiram fix'd out a team of 3 horses on the harrow, with which Ira work'd in the A. M., P. M. Hiram went with the team and Ira mow'd rowan. The nights & mornings are cold & the day rather temperate - wind N. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 11. Having suffer'd much sickness in the night, early in the morning, I sent for Dr. Swift, who accordingly paid me a visit soon after breakfast, & administer'd a medicine to me which put a stop to my disorder in a short time; but I was far from being well during the whole day, especially toward the close of it. - Ira was busy about some kind of work, & Hiram Harrow'd with a team of 3 horses

The physician call'd.-

Weather warm a little cloudy & smokey wind N. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 12. I rested rather better last night than I have done for some time before, my health to-day was about the same as it has been since I was taken ill. Ira

59 chop'd & split some wood, & drew in the rowan which he mow a day or 2 ago.

Hiram went with his team, did not quite finish harrowing over the ground. A verry heavy dew fell last night, warm, wind S.

SUNDAY SEPT. 13. Last night I had a most severe fit of sickness, a verry high fever, attended me with verry free perspiration, so that my bed in the morning was as wet as if it had been purpposely wet with water. The fever left me before morning & I have

Severe attack of my disorder

59 since been growing better. Some of my people attended meeting - Mr. I. Spalding preacher. In the night it thunder'd considerably, but little or no rain here, it has been cloudy to-day - air temperate & smokey - wind N. E. -

MONDAY SEPT. 14th. I recover'd from my sickness since yesterday, so as to be able to see to my business. (~~some~~) this morning. I sent for Mr. Sellen to come & sow some rye for me, he came over accordingly & did the work, which was to sow 3 bhls of rye on 3 acres of the most elevated part of my field, the situation of which will soon be describ'd and Hiram has been harrowing it in, with 3 horses but did not finish it. Ira cut stalks. Sellen has an odd way of sowing grain - he is oblig'd to have 2 persons, one on the right & the other on the left, for guides. Ira & Hiram atteded at first, till I took Ira's place, who appear'd to me to have gone wrong, ~~se~~ so that I fear there will be some vacancies in the sowing where he acted as guide, he did not seem to know what he was doing, being verry much engaged in conversation, however I hope it is all well. This P. M. I busied myself at mending fences. It has been verry chilly - wind brisk from N. W. flying clouds, wind ceas'd blowing at eve. -

Get better Sellon's sows the rye

TUESDAY SEPT. 15th. I now consider myself as wholly recover'd from the late fit of sickness which afflicted me for the space of 8 or 10 days. I never underwent so much sickness at one time in all my life before. I'm now in the 46th year of my age. In the A. M. I rode to town on business, Ira went to mill, Hiram finish'd harrowing. P. M. we all cut stalks, Sellen's boys work'd here this P. M. at that business. This morning the air was chilly wind high in the N. W. & considerable rainy, it held on cold in the P. M. - high wind and a good deal cloudy. - No rain P. M. -

Recovery from sickness. -

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16th. Myself Ira & Hiram finish'd cutting stalks about noon. After dinner we prepar'd a place to shut my father's hogs in, they have been kept in his orchard ever since last spring & have hitherto devour'd all the apples which have fallen from the trees, but now they begin to fall so plentifully that the hogs are unable to eat them all, on the morrow we shall shut them up. The remainder to the P. M. we work'd at binding stalks, half of which are yet to be bound. I was much fatigu'd at night. The air has been uncommonly cold to-day - wind high from N. W. flying cloudy - a frost apprehended.

Cornstalks cut.

Hogs shut out of the orchard

The forepart of this week I turn'd 4 old cows & one Heifer in to the meadow in order to make beef of them, which will be the chief article I shall have to pay my debts with; I have not yet begun to

Beef cattle See Dec.28th.

59 feed them, the grass on which they feed is verry good. -

60 THURSDAY SEPT. 17th. During the A. M. myself & the boys thresh'd off flaxseed, After dinner we bound up the remainder of those stalks which were left yesterday, having done this we resum'd our A. M.'s work - that of threshing off flaxseed across barrels, we pursued this business from the middle of the P. M. till night, when I found myself much fatigu'd & low spirited, thinking over my troubles how many debts I shall be oblig'd to pay within a few months & how little my income - and how much need there is of helping my brothers - the gloomy prospect of getting anything to do it with - These thoughts made a deep impression on my mind to-day - so that I felt much dejected; however after eating a good supper at my father's I felt much reviv'd in body & mind. No frost last night, but verry cold. It was fair to-day but cool, wind N. W. -

Flax-seed thresh'd off

Low spirited. Reflections on my affairs at this time.

SEPT. 18th. FRIDAY I shall now attempt to describe my plow-field on which I do all my sowing this fall. It is bounded on the S. by the field in which I had wheat last year, & rye this year, & a pasture lying W. of it. W. by the lane. N. W. by the S. meadow and N. by the pasture belonging to the farm & that part of ~~Fay~~ the Fay farm lying E. of this pasture, on the E. it is bounded by the same farm. From E. to W. it measures 80 rods in length, from N. to S. 30 rods in breadth containing about 14 acres. In the S. part of it, not far from the center of the field from E. to W. is an elevated piece of ground, which rises gradually on all sides, from whence there is a delightful prospect of the surrounding country. On the W. side of this height where it is most expos'd to winds I have sow'd rye (see Monday) which leaves a square bit to the E. of about 6 acres which I'm now sowing whith wheat, the land will produce good crop of wheat, I have no doubt, if it does not winter-kill, I have prepar'd the ground to receive the seed in the best manner that I can devise, having plow'd it well 3 times & then drag'd or harrow'd it once. Before I put my seed into the ground it is roll'd in plaster. I put on about about $1\frac{1}{2}$ bhl to the acre, it is then plow'd in by a shallow furrow. This is the way I shall sow all my wheat & then I if I live to see another year, and have no wheat, I shall have a clear conscience, for my seed is of the verry best kind it being some of my last year's wheat, sav'd purposely for seed, but which I had like to have carried to market last spring, before I knew how my wheat then on the ground would turn out. The badness of the roads kept me from going to market 'till I found I should have no wheat of my own to sow this year, ~~so~~ unless I kept my wheat which amounted to about 25 bushels, and it was verry fortunate for me that I did so. Ira & Hiram had each of them a team with which they were verry busy - plow-

Description of a wheat field. - See July 29th.1808 p. 127.

how plow'd

Manner of sowing. -

Good seed verry scarce

61

ing in wheat. I follow'd sowing till about 2 o'clock, I then left the field & came home where I busied myself about different sorts of work till night, all hands of us much fatigu'd. In the morning it was verry foggy & chilly till 10 o'clock, it then clear-'d up pleasant - remain'd so till toward evening when the S. wind began to blow up & the sky became hazy - with many signs of rain.

SATURDAY SEPT. 19th. The wind being high from the South I did not finish sowing the E. wing of my field as I had previously intended - in the A. M,, however in the P. M. the wind being some lower than it had been, I finish'd sowing in that part of the field. Yesterday the boys plow'd so much of that (~~the~~) part of the field of which I have just spoken, that one plow could finish it; so Ira work'd with one plow, while Hiram with three horses on the harrow went over what had been plow'd, to smooth off the furrows. They would have compleated their business had it not been for the rain which came on about 2 in the P. M. and oblig'd them to leave a narrow strip slightly cover'd with the harrow.

Sowing

The clouds thick & low during the A. M. - wind high in the S., P. M. a considerable quantity of rain fell accompanied by heavy thunder. -

SUNDAY SEPT. 20th. I attended public worship. Mr. Spaulding preach'd. In the morning it was chilly & cloudy, P. M. pleasant & warm - wind northwardly. My Father receiv'd a letter from brother Asa - by Mr. Filmor - in which he solicits aid to enable him to pay for his farm - mentions sickness in his family &c. Now my father is as willing to help him as he would be to assist any other son - but it is not in his power - to do it at this time, unless it were to give him a young horse which is well broke to the harness & saddle, & pay his keeping on the road, & then, if he should get the beast it would be of little worth to him in paying his debts unless (~~the~~) the sale of horses is better there than it is here; besides this horse, father has nothing to part with. I do not conceive Asa's situation to be desperate; the man by whom the letter was brought lives in the same town, says he has paid considerable toward his farm, & does not think he will be crowded verry hard for what is yet due. - This I must say - Asa never was verry diffident about asking a favor - no matter what our condition is here, he must have his debts paid at all events, let our debts amount to what they will - Ah* he does not know our situation with regard to such matters - if he did, I'm sure he would hold his peace & put his own shoulder to the wheel instead of calling out for help so repeatedly from father. -

Letter from A. Harwood - remarks on the same.

MONDAY SEPT. 21st. Plowing and sowing on the W. part of my plow-

61 field, was the business. Chilly cloudy morning but
*see last Thusday a pleasant - warm P. M.

62 TUESDAY SEPT. 22d. Yesterday I finish'd sowing, but it was not

Sowing finish'd

all plow'd in till to-day, which was done by Ira, while Hiram smooth'd over the whole with the harrow; that piece which was left on Saturday, was done with the rest, and all the tools bro't from the field & safely deposited at home. 16 bushels I have sown on 11 acres mix'd with near 4 bhs plaister. To mention the weather of this day would be only a needless repetion of what it was yesterday, perhaps rather more foggy in the morn. - This evening I receiv'd a letter of Augt. 20th. from Jonas in which he mentions the lightness of crops of english grain in that country - complains of a verry wet summer, which caus'd their grass to be good - says indian corn will require a long summer - he thinks he shall raise enough of that kind of grain for the use of his family - requests us to dry apples for him to sell there in order to buy some wheat &c he writes other things which I have not time to notice. The last proposition I shall not acquiesce in, because I believe he can live without wheat this year as well as myself - he must pinch a little - he us'd to keep a richer table here than I tho't I was able to support, especially in his situation of life - without any farm; now let him see the effects of it, not that I would have him or his family suffer for ther necessaries of life, but let him be taught that people can & do live without every luxury the world affords. He wishes me to make several gallons of cyder brandy for him to sell. - My chief employment to-day was, threshing off flax seed. -

Letter from Jonas & reflections on his past conduct Jan.20th p. 62d. July 5th. p. 118

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 23d. In the A. M. we finish'd threshing flax & had it all carried in to the field where it is to be spread out (ecept one load which was carried out by Isaac Godfrey yesterday) and then we got a small of old wood for neighbor Lewis. P. M. Ira went to mill, Hiram & I went to spreading flax, but were soon obliglig'd to retire to the house on account of the rain, not a great deal done that. - A verry important question presented itself to my mind to-day, which was, whether Ira had best go back to Hopkinton & live again or stay in Bennington & have his family mov'd back to this place again? I communcated it to several of the family, my father being the the first, who all agreed that it would be best for the good of the whole that his family should be bro't back to reside in this place, Ira's constitution being tho't too slender to admit of his clearing up a new farm. - The weather was chilly rainy & cloudy, wind came different points of the compass - in different parts of the day. -

A question whether Ira should return to Hopkinton is decided in the negative. June 27th. 1807 - March 1st, 1808.

THURSDAY SEPT. 24th. The flax was spread.
A foggy chilly A. M.

62 but fair in the P. M. wind N. W.

Flax spread 63

FRIDAY SEPT. 25th. In the A. M. we rais-'d the heaviest part of the cyder-mill P. M. - gather'd apples. Air verry chilly, damp, and foggy in the A. M. P. M. pleasant and warm - wind northwardly. -

Cyder mill rais'd in part. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 26th. Mr. Sellen work'd for me to-day at carpenter business in the morning we completed putting the cyder-mill together, and then march'd off into the woods to find a stick of timber to repair the under-work of the cyder-press, it was soon found - hewn out roughly & bro't to the spot where we wanted it, by 2 in the P. M. The rest of the day was psent in laying it, having the whole press to take up & put down again, in the execution of it. - Ira & Hiram gather'd a few apples. The morning was chilly & foggy as usual, except a short dash of rain the P. M., it was pretty pleasant - wind N. W.

Cyder press repair'd by Mr. Sellon.)

Begin to gather apples

SUNDAY SEPT. 27th. I went to meeting as usual. Mr. Marsh preaching. I did not observe thw weather, but I believe the wind was South. -

MONDAY SEPT. 28th. I spent the greatest part of the day in town on business - found market for several barrels of cyder, which is tho't by some to be worth 9 shillings per barrel. - I am making preparations for a journey to Hopinton. I shall leave the direction of my home affairs with my father & brother Ira. I purpose(~~ing~~) setting out to-morrow. - Morning was foggy - other parts of the day temperate and pleasant. - Ira and Hiram gather'd some Apples and did other disconnected pieces of work Mr. Hatch & his lady (sister to my mother) are here on a visit. -

This journal will be continu'd by my son until my return. -

Journey to Hopkinton)

TUESDAY SEPT. 29. I have written 2 letters (yesterday morning and this morning) to 2 uncles living in Hopkinton. My father began his journey about noon; during the A. M. the work did not go on verry well, because my father wanted help about fixing off. In the P. M. Ira laid up a small apple cheese, consisting of about 40 bushels of our own apples, with 20 belonging to Mr. Joseph Norton who help'd do the work. About sundown we we help'd grandfather rake up some rowan which he had mow'd in the forepart of the day. The weather was fair, air mild, wind South. - Leaves begin or have begun to fade, have had no frost yet, tho' the nights have been 2 or 3 weeks past verry damp and cold. -

Hiram continues the journal.-

Begin to make cyder.-

63 WEDNESDAY SEPT. 30th. We were out early this morning, attending to the business of the day. The first thing was to screw down the cheese and then after breakfast we went to pulling (~~the~~) beans in the cornfield. Mr. Sellen's boys work'd with us. Some time before noon Ira was call'd away to the cyder-mill, where he was kept verry busy till noon, at which time Sellen's boys & I had not finish'd pulling the beans. P. M, Ira cut the cheese down the 2d time & put in a few gallons of water in order to have a little ~~of~~ water cyder for our own drink, while the boys & I pull'd remainder of the beans. We return'd from the field and dismiss'd Sellen's boys after they had rak'd up some rowan, being between 2 & 3 O'clock P. M. From that time till night Ira & I were busy about getting up grandfather's rowan, which he stack'd himself, and screwing the cyder-press. Out of the cheese now on the press, which had only about 60 bbls apples in it we get bbls. Mr. Norton had our waggon and horses to carry his 2 bbls home. Mr. Plank, Mr. Sellen, & Mr. Waters have each of them
64 a barrl of this cyder. The old gentleman boil'd away one barrel of it to-day besides), by attending to that pretty closely, and doing a good many little jobs of work, he found himself verry tir'd at night. The air was warm sky a little cloudy - wind South. -

Sellon's boys work here. -

beans pull'd.-

THURSDAY OCT. 1st. Ira & I had laid our plan yesterday to dig potatoes to-day, but grandfather advis'd otherwise, he said we must gather apples in the young orchard. Sellen's boys came on in the morning & work'd for us all day. When we were going to the field to work, we were hinder'd by being oblig'd to run after some stray sheep which had broken into the orchard; part of them jump'd into the (~~the~~) sheep-pasture & mix'd with our flock & part of them we drove down to the barn & shut them up in a yard, where they remain'd till toward night, not having anything to eat or drink, they became uneasy and leap'd out of their prison into the meadow. When grandfather saw them, he halloo'd terribly which scar'd the sheep out of the meadow into the sheep-pasture & where they join'd those that had separated from them in the morning, they having previously separated from ou flock. The stray sheep being now all together, making a dozzen or more in number, and finding that it was impossible for us to confine them so as to send word to our neighbors to come & see if they belong'd them, grandfather turn'd them into the road to go where pleased. There was one which wore a bell, and 1 black one. Now return to our business. Yesterday Aunt Lucy rode off old Jin up to uncle Zack's where she staid all night, by this we were oblig'd to tackle young downs into the waggon, he was fiery in the morning, going up to that appletree which stands in the pasture by itself, he went with such violence as to break the tire of one of the fore wheels, he became more steady to-ward noon had but little trouble with him after that. From the tree

Sellon's boys again today

Hallenbecks sheep. -

64 in the lot we gather'd about 12 bhls of apples - came back to the young orchard where we nearly fill'd the waggon before noon. In the P. M. we chang'd waggons - took the new one, gather'd it full of apples which made an P. M.'s work for us. Grandfather mow'd rowan in the orchard & clean'd the flaxseed. Cloudy - wind South air mild and warm. Mr. Plank came over with his team this morning and took (home) away his barrel of cyder & got a few bhls of apples he also carried Waters' cyder to him. About 10 O'clock at night Samuel Robinson jun'r came here to get the downs horse. Ira got out of bed & went to the pasture with him & caught the horse for him.

The Downs horse taken away by Sam'l Robinson

FRIDAY OCT. 2d. The young orchard was clear'd of Apples - we finish'd it a little before sundown. I reckon we have gather'd rather more than 3 plump waggon loads there, because we nearly fill'd it the first time, and the last time we were oblig'd to set our baskets on top of the load full of apples with 2 bags full. I am glad this job is done. Major & Cebina work'd here again to-day. - During the A. M. it was cloudy - wind roar'd some. In the P. M. it was rainy - wind N. E. I expect we shall have a long storm from from that quarter. Toward night the air grew cooler. - The same sheep spoken of yesterday came to us again by way of the wood road & were again turn'd into the highway. -

Sellon's boys.-

65 SATURDAY OCT. 3d. 200 hundred shieves of rye were thresh'd by 3 horses led by me. The straw of the last flooring was left unbound Ira chop'd a little wood which form'd the business of this wet and uncumfortable day. It began to rain early in the A. M. & pour'd down verry plentifully till a short time before sunset when it ceas'd. The wind was strong in the N. or rather N. E. air chilly. - Leaves decay verry fast. Grass continues good, and affords plenty of feed for horses, sheep, & cattle. Indeed I think the season has been remarkable on that account. As yet we have had no frost. I think we have no reason to complain that our indian corn has not had a long summer to grow in; it is verry uncommon for frosts to hold off so late as the present time. -

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4th. It look'd so likely for rain in the A. M. that our people thot it would not do to go to meeting; however in the P. M. Grandfather drove the waggon full to church. Verry cloudy - air cold & damp wind N.

MONDAY OCT 5th. In the A. M. the straw of the last flooring which was thresh'd on Saturday was bound, I then went to gathering apples left Ira to work with the grain, he got it winnow'd abbout noon. P. M. between 2 & 3

65 o'clock he & grandfather had ~~the~~ it measured ready to carry to mill - amounting to little more than 8 bushels. About the same time Cebina Sellen & I had fill'd the waggon with apples (which would have been done before had I not been hinder'd some about the grain). The horses were tackled to the waggon & the apples carried to the heap and then the rye put in & drove by me to mill. After I return'd I help'd Ira & Cebina finish digging the potatoes in the nursery which bro't it to near sun-set when we dismiss-'d 'Bine who has done pretty well to-day. The last job of this day was to go in the evening & get the grist - that being unloaded - horses turn'd out & the news-paper read a little, I retir'd to rest. -

The morning air was damp and verry chilly - wind blew strongly from the N. all day which made it quite cool - cloudy. - Our wheat & rye sow'd this fall, is now up and looks well. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 6 I shall in the first place relate some particulars respecting myself. In the morning I help'd Ira some about getting the waggon into the field where he has been digging* potatoes. I then fix'd off for training as fast as I could - arriv'd on the ground between the hours of 9 and 10. About 12 Capt. Blackmer paraded his company. After roll-call we were led by Liet Blackmer to the choice of a 4th. searjeant - Mr. William Burt 1st. corporal was elected by a handsome majority, we then proceeded to choose a 4th Corporal - made no choice the first time going round, but on a 2d tiral Mr. Stephen Pratt Jun. was chosen to fill the office. He made a short speech something to this purpose "Gentlemen officers and fellow soldiers you have made choice of me for your 4th. Corporal - I thank you for the office and shall endeavor to serve you to the best of my abilities" We then march'd to Capt. Robinson's store and had a drink. After marching and exercising awhile on the green before the meeting house, we march'd on to

Training

*one g would have done as well

66 Court-house hill - wheel'd about and march'd back as far Merchant's store where Col'n Fassat gave us a treat - here the company exercis'd some, and receiv-'d many praises from their Lieut'nt. While the company were drinking, those who stood near me, made sport for themselves by sending stones at a negro who sat at the corner of Judge Robinson's door yard. Some of the stones hit the negro, others fell verry near him, which threw him in to a terrible rage, he hurl'd one stone at them wheich came verry near me, but it fortunately hit nobody, he threaten'd terribly and made some verry mad gestures, which verry much pleased those that had affronted him this sport was soon stop'd by the company being order'd to march. - We march'd on to the parade and there dismiss'd. About 3 o'clock P. M. I should have come home immediately had I found the newspapers

66 which I wanted at Col'n Fay's he had carried them away with him when he went to Jutland. I then went to Judge Robinson's & to Mr. Young's ~~and~~ where I met with no better success. At last I went to Dr. Baker's where I procur'd one of the three which I wanted; then I came home contented. Ira and Grandfather have dug nearly a waggon load of Potatoes in the Cornfield, they had not time to unload them so they left them in our side of the door-yard. The A. M. was verry chilly and a little cloudy, but in the P. M. it was pleasant and warm no clouds to be seen, wind N. W. -

Potatoes are dug about these days. -

WEDNESDAY OCT. 7th. This morning I ask'd Ira what was to be done with those potatoes in the waggon? He said they were to be unloaded. Where they now stand? said I. Ira answer'd "yes" When he was gone after the horses, I went to shoveling out the potatoes on to the ground. I had not proceeded far in this business before Grandfather saw me, which thew him into such a violent passion that he could hardly contain himself. Althoug I am so much accustom'd to his way of speaking on such occasions, yet he deliver'd his expressions so foreibly this morning, that I almost trembled with fear, tho' he stood a number of rods from me. His passion soon subsided, things all went right after that. I had shovel'd out only about 3 bushels he told me to pick out the largest and carry them in to our house, which I did accordingly. When Ira said "yes" he did not know whether he was in the world or out of it, for he had no reccolection of ~~it~~ saying so afterwards. to end the matter the potatoes were unloaded where Grandfather wish'd to have them. Ira & I spent the day verry agreeably diging potatoes, tho' a little tir'd at night. Grandfather was not idle, he sort's all the potatoes, and every evening boils a few for the hogs. We nearly finish'd diging potatoes in the cornfield, they are very good being large. Last night was cold, this morning the ground was white with frost, the fist I have known this fall, air cold. Pleasant day - wind N. - Parker Lewis work'd for us about 4 hours to-day, he was call'd home by his father. -

67 THURSDAY OCTOBER 8th. This morning about 9 O'clock we finish'd diging the potatoes around the cornfield. Grandfather, who keeps an account of the No of bushels, says; that around this field we have got 60 bhls. of potatoes. (See May 16th and 18th page 32) Ira went away with the waggon and horses and transported a load of goods for Mrs. Street from her former dwelling to Mr. Joseph Norton's, where she intends to reside for the future. From this expedition Ira return'd about 1 o'clock; from which time till night we dug potatoes in the little field (see May 16 & 18th p. 32) not without being hindered by lending

67 the waggon to Adam Waters to go a mile or 2, he soon return'd after which our business went on regularly. We were weary and glad to retire to rest at night. The old Gentleman keeps verry busy about the business - sees that every thing is in proper order, and gives directions how we should proceed with the work. A frost last night, by which vines have been kill'd. A fair clear day - warm - a little smokey. -

Wednesday) FRIDAY OCTOBER 9th. We work'd steadily at the same kind of business at which we work'd yesterday. My father arriv'd here about sunset, he did not pursue his journey to Hopkinton according to his original plan; for finding Dr. Hopkins at Virgeenes, he put all his letters into his hands and did his business with him, which caus'd him to prosecute this journey. Mr. Hopkins says all are doing well in Hopkinton. From Vergeenes he proceeded to Williston, where he spent 46 hours among his friends there - and then turn'd about for home. Going and coming he staid at Mr. Mosely's with whom he did some private business concerning some land lying on mount Anthony which he & Capt. Norton are trying to buy. On his way he has many relations by means of which he was enabled to travel without being at much expence, spending only 87 cents on the road. - Mr. Plank us'd our horses to-day for which he is to pay us in ox-work. It is now good weather for business tho' it has been pretty warm to-day - Air smokey - wind South. - My father will now resume his journal; he appears to have withstood the fatigues of his tour remarkably well. I hope we shall carry on business with greater dispatch for the future. It was more on account of his affairs at home that he did not go on to Hopkinton; than anything else. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 10th. We labor'd diligently in the potatoe-field, but the work went on slowly, because the tops of the Potatotoes were so dead that few of them* could be pull'd out of the ground, therefore we were oblig'd to do much more diging. At night we were all much fatigu'd expecially brother Ira who has never perfectly regain'd his health since his sickness in April. I heard the report of the cannon about 2 in the P. M. which announced the election of Israel Smith to the office of Governor of Vermont - 2 or 3 other discharges of the same piece have happen'd during the P. M., from which I conjecture there is great rejoicing among the republicans. - Plank had 1 of my horses to work to-day. Warm - wind South. -

Having return'd from the northward I resum my work again.-

SUNDAY OCTOBER 11th. Heard Mr. Marsh preach.- The day was fair and warm wind S. Great numbers of cattle have pass'd thro' this town within a few days from the north-

67 ward on their way to market. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 12th. Business the same as it was last Saturday.- Air a little smokey and verry warm for this season wind South - foggy & chilly in morning.

*It is meant that the root would not follow the top.

68 TUESDAY OCTOBER 13th We finish'd diging potatoes, and gather-

Finish diging potatoes.

'd the beans in to the barn (see Sept. 29th. 63d.) 200 bushels of potatoes grew on that little field adjoining Street's tan-works, containing rather more than half an acre of ground. On the cornfield & 2 or 3 small patches near the house we have rais'd about 76 bhls more - making in all 275 bushels of verry good potatoes. They yielded best, and grew largest, on dry land, owing probably to the wetness of the (~~wetnes~~) season. Where the land was naturally moist the potatoes were small compar'd with those which grew on dry land, especially if planted close, for where there was a vacancy of 18 or 20 inches they were about as large as if they had grown on dry land, but it was on the moist land where we planted the most seed and got the least produce from it. From this I am convinc'd that potatoes ought not to be planted close on miost land. Morning chilly. The day fair with some clouds - air warm - wind South. - There was one load of beans

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14th. Ira and I undertook to thresh the beans;

Gathering apples

my corn

but we found them so damp as not to admit of it, so we had to spread them out upon the cow-sheds, that they might dry. We turn'd the flax. I went up to Hollenbeck's to tell him of his sheep being in my pasture - did not see him, but inform'd his people of it, who said they would drive them off. (April 25th. p. 24th. - October 1st. and 2d.) Having fix-'d a sort of frame on the waggon-box, we spent the rest of the day in (~~drawing~~) cutting up, and drawing in corn; substituting the waggon and horses for a cart and oxen. We drew up 5 loads. The beans were taken in at night. The evening was spent busily pareing apples.
Weather pleasant and warm - high wind at night from South. Gov'r Smith was elected by a majority of 1119 votes, we understand by Smead's last half sheet. -

THURSDAY OCTOBER 15th. Gathering apples was our business to-day;

how many bushels I cannot certainly tell - perhaps it will do to put it at 150. Besides my common help, I had 3 boys (June 8th. p. 38th.) who work'd verry well while I was amongst them, but if I hap-

68 pen'd to leave them by themselves a few minutes, it was all play, however they have done a good deal of work to-day. Major & Cebina Sellon and Parker Lewis are the boys spoken of. - I'm much ~~drove~~ hurried by my work at present. Corn to harvest and Cyder to make it all wants doing before I shall have sufficient time for it, I believe I shall hire somebody.- A. M. wind S. P. M. N. air verry smokey and temperate. -
This evening I sent Hiram over to Mr. Ephraim Wood's to see his soon Isaac about making a screw to our cyder-press. Wood promis'd to come and do it the forepart of next week. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 16th. Until some time in the morning we husk-'d corn at the heap, and then went to gathering winter-apples, but this business was soon ended by its raining. - About 11 O'clock we got our team ready tackled to draw up the corn-stalks, it rain'd so, that but one load was bro't up, which me father stack'd.
69 The afternoon was spent in husking corn. Young Parker work'd for me again to-day. Gates Doty, who is here lame, work'd in the barn in P. M. 6 of us in-
Husking corn. - cluding Parker husk'd 28 bushels or 38 baskets of sound corn. It was about dark when we left off work. all the corn which we drew in day before yesterday is husk'd out. - Verry smokey during the whole day - wind strong in the S. in the middle of the day it was quite rainy - cloudy in the P. M. - air rather chilly.-

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17th. Early in the morning I work'd in the barn mowing away the husks. Some winter-apples were gather'd to-day and a few shieves of winter-wheat thresh-'d. My father and I went in to the woods and cut the timber for a screw to the cyder-press. Late in the P. M. I rode to town and there sold 48 bbls. of
Cyder agreed for, by Sage. cyder to Capt. Sage for 7/6 per barrel, the casks to be bro't by them to the press and fill'd by me and carried to his store by my team. No material difference between the weather of this day and yesterday, according to my wishes there was a frost last night. The reason for my wishing so, was on account of my wheat, the insect having begun to destroy it in many places, the frost I think will be apt to stop its progress. -

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18th. None of us attended public worship, on account of bad weather; which was verry tempestuous in the A. M. - wind being high from S. W. attended with considerable showers of rain. In the P. M. it remain'd calm for some time, but the wind shifting about - N. W. it became chilly and uncumfortable. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 19th. The first business was to go with the

69 horses and sled and bring down the screw-timber; (see Saturday) after that we gather'd winter-apples all day. Mr. Doty assisted us most of the day. Verry chilly, windy, weather - wind N. W. snow is seen on the neighboring mountains - cloudy. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 20th. Notwithstanding the roughness of the weather this morning, we were oblig'd to expose ourselves to it quite early. Just as we had got settled down to the business of grinding apples Mr. Wood came on to make a screw. (see Thursday eve last) I was then call'd off to go and get another sort of timber, that which we bro't down yesterday being birch, did not suit Mr. Wood who said walnut would do better, I cut one accordingly and bro't it to the barn where he has been working upon it ever since that is till night. He had Hiram to turn for him in the P. M. his work is laid out ready to cut the screw on the morrow. Our cyder-making business did not progress so well as I could have wish'd; however we did something at it, ground apples enough for the cheese which we left without pressing and the cistern full of pumice ready to be thrown on in the morning. Young Parker work'd for me this P. M. (Oct. 15th - 16 -) Several people came here to-day and gather'd their winter and sauce apples. Dr. Lyman had 7 bhls of rusties for winter Mr. Martin Norton had 7 bhls for winter and 10 for
70 sauce. Mr. Cyrus Hill had six bushels of winter apples - 17cts. per bhl. I shall charge Dr. Lyman 20cts. per bhl. because I pick'd them up for him. Norton and Hill gather'd theirs. I shall charge them 17cts. for winter apples and 12cts. per bushel for sause apples.- Mr. Gates Doty rides one my horses to Troy to-day.- The wind has blown verry strong from N. W. which caus'd it to be quite cold and chilly especially in the morning at which time the tops of the mountains were white with snow. Last night it was freezing cold. -

Wood comes to make a new screw for the press.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21st. Wood finish'd his screw to-day sun an hour high. I hir'd Mr. Lewis to assist him. Wood took dollars for what he had done. I kept a span of horses for him in the bargain. I had the use of his waggon to-day till nearly 4 in the P. M. How the new screw will work I am uncertain, because the timber is green and is already crack'd at one end. I don't think I shall use it this season. - I have been pressing that apple cheese which I laid up yesterday. have extracted 11 barrels from it 340 gallons of which Ira carried in 3 hogheads to Sage's store. A few apples were gather'd at night by Ira and Hiram while I was cutting down the cheese which, I believe eded the day. Adam Waters has had 10 bushels of winter apples 6 bushels more for sauce at the same price given by Norton and Hill, which may be seen at the top of this page. The south wind blew up verry strong to-day & ~~which~~ made it extreme-

70 ly uncomfortable in open air I expect rain soon - cloudy. - My business drives me dreadfully, I want more help. I shall hire some good fellow if I can, till I get my apples gather'd and corn harvested. It's a plague to be so harrass'd and drove about by work, as I am now; a man does not enjoy himself day nor night in such a situation. I am so perplex'd about this cyder-making business that I don't sleep much more than half the night - go to bed late and rise early. Now what I have got to do before winter comes on, it this; Harvest 3 acres of corn - make all my own and a great part of Dr. Swift's (~~and J. Norton's~~) -apples into cyder, and draw ~~out~~ a great quantity of manure on to the meadow. While I'm doing that, there must be now and then, a load of wood bro't to the door - some threshing to be done - a great many little matters which are too minute to mention, must be attended to, that retard the main business verry much. - Besides all that, the days shorten as the season advances, and the weather grows rougher and more unsteady - sometimes cold ~~and~~ sometimes warn perhaps it rains one day and snows the next - no mor than what is usual at this season in our country - So I say - can it be wonder'd at, if I do feel a little uneasy about these things I an't discourag'd yet - I shall get though with it well enough I warrent. -

Statement of the business to be done before winter

71 Trees are many of them strip'd of therir leaves and few, except apples-trees, retain their verdent dress. We see by this, that winter is not far off. Hearkl hear his great voice when the wind blows amongst the naked trees! What a majestic sound. -

THURSDAY OCTOBER 22d. Ground and laid on a cheese consisting of about 140 bushels of apples - A number of bushels of the ~~apples~~ same were gather'd by Mr. Sellon & his 2 oldest sons - The flax was turn'd by my father Ira and Hiram. The cyder-press mended by Mr. Sellon - one of the shoulders of the N. E. post having given way, he form'd another and pin'd it fast to the post, so that it is as firm as ever. -
A hogshead of cyder loaded ready for Sage's Store. Which was the last considerable job done this day. Brother Taylor his wife and 2 daughters arriv'd here on a visit. Rainy in the morning, before sunrise - wind S. W. but it soon after veer'd about in to N. W. and blew up verry chilly and cold all day - flying clouds - everning cold & clear. - Mr. Joseph Norton had 12 bushels of winter apples.

Making cyder.-

FRIDAY OCTOBER 23d. Verry early in the morning I put the cheese under the blocks which I had not time to do yesterday - Sent Ira off with a hoghead of cyder before Sunrise, to Sage's Store - he carri'd 4 hogsheads and then gave out sick. Mr. Sellon and his boys according to their account gather'd 101 bushels of apples, besides cutting up 3 loads of corn.

101 bushels apple gather'd by Sellon

71 (the last mention'd job Hiram help'd them do) Hiram was sent off with the 5th hogshead of cyder carried to Sage's Store this day. I have been busy enough about the cyder-mill. - Weather chilly and a little cloudy - wind N. W. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 24th. I exerted myself to the utmost this day - because the whole business fell upon me and my son, Ira being sick. I laid on a cheese of between 125 & 130 bhls. by about sundown. Much fatigu'd at night. - Martin Norton's people had 11 bhls winter apples here. Mr. Gates Doty return'd from Troy with Jonas's horse. -

Snows

Snow enough to whiten the surface of the ground, fell last night, it soon vanish'd in the morning. The air has been cold - sky clouded - foggy on the mountains - wind N. W. -

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25th. In company with Brother Taylor and his people, myself and most of my family went to church in our respective waggons from whence, after hearing a good sermon from Mr. Marsh, we return'd late in the P. M. A rich supper was serv'd up to brother Taylor & sister Sarah, their son-in-law Waters & 3 daughters. - This morning the wind came fresh from the S. W. which caus'd it to be quite warm and pleasant; but before night it shifted into the N. W. and blew up verry chilly, to me it prov'd unfortunate for, having my flax spread on a siddling hill facing the N. and having been lately turn'd, which caus'd the flax to be light & dry - the wind took it by great rolls and carried some of it 30 rods from the ground on which it was spread. - I expect it is nearly ruin'd. -

Flax blown off. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 26th. I did not press that cheese which I put up last Saturday till today. Ira was able work to-day, his chief employment was transporting cyder to Sage's Store, the 11th hogshead was carried.to Sage which makes out his complement, his clerk return'd me a bill of "41 bbls. 18 Gns. cyder", which rechon'd at 1 doll. 25 cents per bble, amounts to 51 dollars, 92 cents. A part of my pay is to be cash and a part it in goods. My work has not been of the greatest importance tho' I was busy. - Press'd the cheese and gather'd apples . An accident occur'd just at night which I must not omit in the account of the events of this day. - Thinking that it would be verry convenient to have a horse-cart to draw apples on, I borrow'd Maj'r Norton's. I have no horse that has ever been us'd to one or even tackled to one; however we ventur'd to put the Doty mare before it - she drew up 2 loads verry well and then Ira undertaking to unhicth her from it ~~the cart~~, by some means or other she took an affright and ran full speed with Ira hanging to her, and the cart fasten'd to her by one fill only - that fill which hung loose, after she had run a few rods, stuck into the ground which

72

Cyder carri'd to Sage. -

72 stop'd the cart & clear'd the mare from it, breaking one of the fills and some other parts of the cart, which I walu'd as nothing when I found Ira unhurt. I shall not tackle that beast in the cart again. - Air cold - cloudy - wind N. W. - This evening Mr. Sellon and his boys help'd us husk corn. - Haswell gather 'd 12½ bushels of winter appls for himself. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27th. Mr. William Norton & his hir'd man Isaac

William works here.-

Corn drawn in. -

Godfrey help'd me clear my cornfield (see page 44th. July 8) had Plank's oxen to draw corn & stalks. It did not take up the whole day to cut up the corn, for Mr. Norton had time to draw 2 loads of rails on my waggon, for stack-yard fence. Parker Lewis work'd here a considerable part of the day. - Clearing the cornfield gives me liberty to turn the fat cattle in to the N. meadow which affords the pasturage on the farm.- One of Plank's sons (Jo) came on in the morning with the team, but did not stay long - said he was sick & went home. The weather was rough - verry cloudy - some little squalls of light flying flakes of snow - wind blew strong and steadily from N. W. - It was this day that Mr. Haswell gather'd his apples - not yesterday.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28th. Last night it was cold & freezing to a considerable degree, but it was quite pleasant to-day, tho' some chilly. - This morning Ira and I put up a fence around the stacks and turn'd the fat cattle in to the N. meadow. - We spent the rest of the day gathering apples - Young Parker - Mr. Bliss and his 2 daughters were engag'd in the same business - Mr. Bliss & his daughters came on a little before noon. Brother Taylor & his people sat out for home about noon. - (see p. 71)

Bliss works here 2 days.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 29th. Ira & Hiram put a cheese on to the press of 120 bushels. I gather'd apples in Clark's orchard. Bliss's daughters were with me, but their assistance was small - Warm and smokey wind S. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 30th. Gather'd apples in my S. orchard - Sister Lucy - Bliss & his little girls - & Parker Lewis - all assisted. The S. wind blew up fresh ~~from the~~ Smokey - wind turn'd N. W. and rain'd in the evening.- I made a husking this night had a few hands who did verry well. -

Husking

73 SATURDAY OCTOBER 31st. Was a verry wet slopy day - rather cold - which increas'd as the day advanc'd. In spite of this weather, Hiram & I put up a cheese, which I suppose contains 150 bhls. apples. - Ira assisted some about making cyder & went down to the still - prepar'd wood

73 for Sunday. - The evening was cold and snowy wind N. W. - Last Thursday Mr. Sellon took my flax off the ground - is to do all that is necessary in dressing it & give me half

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1st. The ground was cover-'d by an inch thick-

Snow 1 inch in depth. -

ness of snow which fell during the night & a consider-able part of the day; This oblig'd us to fodder our stock and prevented our going to meeting - Cold and freezing at night clear. -

MONDAY NOV'R. 2d. Sent off cyder 4 bbls. to the still & 7½ more to Sage's store - this Ira did with the waggon except what went to Sage's - that being done by Dr. Lyman's team. - Taking care of the cyder & husking corn was my employment - Cold morning - warm day smokey - snow most of it carried off by the time night came on - evening about 8 o'clock it began to rain, which put a stop to our husking - tho' in the barn - because we had to lay it in an open waggon. -

TUESDAY NOV'R. 3d. Ira & Hiram work'd during the whole day at the cyder-mill grinding & laying up a cheese. Par-ker Lewis work'd them awhile in P. M. I gather'd the remainder of the apples in Clarks orchard & assisted Ira & Hiram considerably afterwards. Will'm. Allison, an apprentice to A. Waters work'd here to-day - just at night I sent him down to the still with a load of cyder - (~~after his return from thence I sent him with a load to Dr. Lyman's~~) - which ended his day's work.- Husked corn in the eve'g. - Air smokey - sun shone dim & was colour'd red - mild & pleasant - wind S.

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 4th. Had the greatest part of the apples in the S. orchard gather'd by the women myself Ira & Hiram. -

Bliss & his daugh-ters. -

Bliss's daughters were here a considerable part of the day - Cebina Sellon work'd from 1 in the P. M. till night. - I hir'd Major Sellon to gather apples by the bushel at o/1 per bushel - he gather'd 12 bhls. - Pleas-ant but smokey. - Bliss had 3½ bhls winter apples.

FRIDAY NOV'R. 5th. Ira & Hiram made cyder. I glean'd the S. part of the orchard - At night Hiram carried 4 bbls. cyder to Dr. Lyman's. - Uncumfortable weather being chilly & cloudy - wind N. W. -

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6th. Carried 1 bbls. cyder to Mr. Bliss & 3 to Mr. Cyrus Hill went to the still brought from thence 10 Gal'ns. of Cyder-brandy. - I am to have 8 more. -

73
A cow sold to Sage.-

We husk'd some corn & attended to the cyder mill. - Sold a cow to Capt. Sage for 20 dollars. - It has been a wet snowy drizzling day - verry muddy in the roads. -

3 inches of snow. -

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7th. The snow fell about 3 inches deep last night - it has been verry uncumfortable weather on that account - Cloudy & squally. - We have been busy getting in cyder - taking care of the cheese &c Ira went over to Sag's ~~Store~~ furnace to assist about driving that cow which I sold ~~to~~ him yesterday - Drew a load of wood for Adam - carried his bbl. cyder to him.- Fodder'd our cattle at night. - Yesterday I reckon'd with Mr. Sellon - ow'd him about 6 dolls - I have paid him 7 bbls. cyder towards it.

74

SUNDAY NOV'R. 8th. Went to Church in a waggon & heard Mr. Marsh preach. - Weather more pleasant than yesterday - thawy - wind S. W. -

Dr. Swift's cyder made.
Congress news. -

MONDAY NOV'R. 9th. Our only business was making cyder for Dr. Swift. Receiv'd Congress News by Smead's last "World" - read the President's message. - Chilly - cloudy - some squally - wind W. - snow is not off yet by a considerable - wind N. W. at night.

TUESDAY NOV'R. 10th. Spent the day in gleaning the orchard and taking care of Dr. Swift's cheese. - It was moderately stormy verry cloudy, chilly, homely weather wind northwardly. -

My corn was planted about the 14th & 15th of May - see page 30th - July 3d - p. 43d. see July 1st p. 42, & June 8 & 11th p. 38th - 39th.

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 11th. Husk'd the last heap of corn which remain'd unhusk'd it has been out in the weather ever since it was bro't out of the field (see Oct 27 - p. 72) but it was not injur'd any. - There was also a considerable quantity which had been husk'd & laid in a heap that night on which I had a husking. (see p. 72 at the bottom) this was not injur'd much - is now secur'd. - I may safely say that we have done harvesting for this season - The husks in the yard where the corn was, were all stack'd - nothing left unsecur'd out-door. - My corn I think turns out full as well I expected, a small proportion of it is unsound and I find it yielded verry well, for as near as I can make it out, having kept no regular account, I think it not far out of the way to say that from 3½ acres we get 80 bushels of sound corn, which is much better luck than some have had who planted late & on poor soil, such people make out poorly this year raising corn. - I don't think, take it upon an average, that corn is any more than middling. I am sure there must be a great quantity of it, where it was planted late, unfit for bread, because it had not time to grow. - However it is likely we shall have enough of

74 this kind of grain amongst us, for our own consumption, ~~a~~ A great deal of it stands in the field as yet unharvested. I was inform'd last evening that Mr. Austin Herman has now 13 acres to harvest there is a great number of farmers in as bad a situation as he is. How they must feel about it is best known to themselves, but were I in such a condition, I'm sure it would excite verry anxious feelings in me, I should not relish these late storms verry well I should be verry active every day when the weather would possibly admit of it. - No doubt others feel & will do as as well as I should. I'm just emerging from my hury - I shall think when I have finish'd making cyder, that my business will not drive me quite so much as it has done for some weeks past and I hope to enjoy myself a little better for the future. - See October 21st for some remarks made upon my situation at that time. - Our garden roots are pretty good expecially onions & turnips, the latter prove to be most excellent & are of a good size - much superior to any we have rais'd before for many years. - See P. 2d. Nov. 4th, 5th, p. 70) We carried in our cabbages - dug the beets & carrots - about 3 bushels of the former & 5 of the the latter & 12 of the turnips of the english kind. -

The weather was quite chilly in the morning, but grew more temperate toward night - wind blowing briskly from S.

75 THURSDAY NOV. 12th.

Finish grinding apples.-

We this day put a period to the business of grinding apples. Ira & Hiram having ground & put up the verry last cheese consisting of between 90 & 100 bushels of apples. My time was taken up in preparing open casks for retaining the cyder until Major Norton (who is ~~at~~ have several barrels of it) gets his casks ready. Father & I have been gleaning the orchard a little closer to-day. I think it unnecessary to give a particular detail of what I have done to-day - to say I have been busily employ'd about different kinds of work is sufficient. It is a time of the year when we farmers are always intent upon securing our crops & consequently have not a moments time to lose. We this day secur'd our poll (p) beans - On Saturday I shall make a statement of the No of bbls of cyder made & sold and the number of bushels of apples sold & the the names of those who receiv'd them. A fair mild day - wind S. - rain'd in the evening.

FRIDAY NOV. 13th.

Maj'r Norton. -

Early this morning Major Norton sent down his casks - consisting of 6 barrels - these were fill'd in the course of the day. We remov'd from the barn to the house a considerable body of corn which we had husk'd during several evenings of the preceeding week - the barn floor was clear'd of its incumberance by husks & the garden sause buried. Ira & Hiram drew a couple of loads of wood. - Air chilly - wind N. -

75 SATURDAY NOV. 14th. In the morning Ira went to Major Norton's with a load of his cyder & was instructed to get some work done there, but he found them too much engag'd to do any, & so ~~turn~~ came home. He & Hiram since that time have been banking the houses to prepare for winter. My business has been within the house a good deal to-day carrying cyder in to the cellar & other work of less importance. It froze soundly last night and was chilly during the day. -

I shall here set down the names of those that bo't cyder of me & the quantity each of them had. -

bbls. cyder		Bo't apples of me this fall bhls.		bhls.
Moses Sage	49	Lyman	7	A. Waters 16
James Hicks	8	M. Norton	29	L. Dewey 9½
M. J. Lyman	4	J. Norton	12	T. Lewis 6
Martin Norton	6	C. Hill	6	J. Hunt 19
Cyrus Hill	3	L. Bliss	3½	Plank 6
Thomas Lewis	4	A. Haswell	12	S. Sellon 3
Samuel Sellon	7			
Luther Bliss	1			
Adam Waters	2			
To the still	12			
Anthony Haswell	1			
Justus Plank	1			
Total	98			

Whole No. of bhls - - - - 129
which reckon'd at o/10 per bhl.
will amount to £ 5..7..6.d -
(Apples - - D 17 15
(Cyder - - D122 50
$139 65

Being consider'd as sold, buying gall of brandy
Barrels - sold at $1..25 cts. per bbl. amounts to the sum of Dol.122 & 50 cts.

No. of cattle

8 Cows
7 two years olds
12 Calves
6 Horses
42 Sheep

76 Nov. - MONDAY NOV'R. 16th. A new kind of business was begun to-day - which is waggoning out manure on to the meadow. It is frozen so hard in the yard as to oblige us to pry it up with an Iron-bar before it can be shovel'd up.- The night was verry cold - the day was verry much so & the sky clouded - ground tightly frozen. - I make a mistake in setting down the name & date of this day, for it is Tuesday the 17 of Nov. On Sunday Mr. Stark of Pownal preach'd & at night tarried at my house, on that evening two of my neighbors Capt. Norton & Mr. Loomis came in & spent the evening verry agreeably - Pretty cold. -

Waggoning manure

Monday the 16th. my work was of no great importance. Ira went to town & carried Lewis's cyder to him. -

76 went to Norton's to get some blacksmithing done, did not return till near night. I took such of our apples as had been deposited in the upper part of the house, into the cellar - made some water cyder - some beans were thresh'd - cold weather wind N. W. Near the close of the day, Capt. Norton & I made the tour of Street's wood-lot which we talk of buying. -

Cold. - WEDNESDAY NOV. 18th. Business the same as yesterday - Extremely cold & dry - high wind from N. W. -

THURSDAY NOV'R. 19. This morning it was stormy & continu'd so thro' the day with some intervals. - No verry important work done.

Mr. Marsh FRIDAY NOV'R. 20th. Some apples & a barrel of cyder were sent to Mr. Marsh by Hiram with a sleigh and horses - he went to the blacksmith's & return'd about 3 o'clock. Ira drew 1 load of wood. I work'd with Mr. Duncan on the barn doors Weather cold & cloudy - wind N. W. -

Mr. Duncan works here. - SATURDAY NOV. 21st. Mr. Duncan & I finish-'d off & hung the barn doors. I mean only 1 pair, & those at the S. side of the barn. The doors on the N. side will do till the barn has new covering put upon it. - Moderate winter weather some thawy. - Maj'r. Norton's horse-cart was repair'd & sent home.

Instructions to Col'n Safford. see Jan.11 SUNDAY 22d Attended meeting. Mr. Marsh preach'd. In the evening I went to see Col. Safford, who is about to make a journey in to the country where brother Jonas resides. He has agreed to bring Ira's wife with him when he returns. Dispatch'd a letter by him to Jonas. - Weather cold - cloudy except in the P.M. -

MONDAY NOV'R. 23d. Getting wood was our chief employment - drew load for Waters. Hiram thresh'd some rye.in the P. M. Freezing weather in a moderate degree. -

TUESDAY NOV'R. 24. Ira & Hiram went into the S. part of the neighborhood in order to procure a ram for our flock - They return'd about 1 in the P. M. & reported that Mr. Loomis had 1 which he would spare in about a week hence. They spent the rest of the day threshing rye.- I shod the sled and did some other light work. - Was call'd just at night to see Capt. Hinman die, but he died before I reach'd his house - His death is sudden in-deed, having been sick but 4 or 5 days. - His age is 55 years. Mr. Wm. Norton & I sat up with his corpes during the night. Cold & windy from various quarters. -

Capt. Hinman dies
77

77

WEDNESDY NOV'R. 25th. Drawing out manure was our business. - Moderate & warm - A. M. - P. M. -cloudy & chilly wind S. -

THURSDAY NOV. 26th. Attended Capt. Daniel Hinman's funerel & assistted at his burial. - A suitable discourse was deliver'd by Mr. Marsh wherein he seem'd to be much engag'd. - Those that attended form'd considerable collection. - Thawy - wind S. - cloudy - verry muddy in the roads

Mr. Hinmans funeral

Two notes to J.Gates

Gave 2 notes of hand to Mr. Joshua Gates, the one for 37 dollars & 48 cents & the other for 25 Dollars & 75 cents on demand, with twelve percent interest. -

FRIDAY NOV'R. 27th. In the A. M. it being stormy so that we could not work without doors verry well, I spent my time fixing things in the barn. Ira bor'd posts for the purpose of setting up bars where the old posts are decay'd. In the P. M. we shovel'd and carried out several loads of manure. - ‡ Last night it was some rainy & the wind being fresh from the S. it carried nearly all the snow off from the improv'd lands & rais'd the brooks considerably by what melted on the mountains tho' it is not likely that the snow which fell there in October will be carried off till next May. This thaw will give many an opportunity to prepare for winter. There is yet a great quantity of cyder to be made - it's likely people will make good improvement of this thaw. -

Observations on business

SATURDAY NOV. 28th. Till about 2 in the P. M. we were verry busy with our hoes, plow & shovel, in making a ditch turn the course of a certain brook which flows thro our W. pasture in the spring when the snow melts off from the mountain v(See April 23d. p. 23d.) It will now run N. of its common course where it will have no power to injure the land by washing it away, as it formerly did, in running in the old channel. When we had finish'd this, and had repair'd the wood-road between the top of the hill & the brook, also at the brook, we return'd to the house where we took some refreshment & then proceeded to take down the cyder mill, which kept us busy the remainder of the day. - Cloudy & chilly wind northwardly.-

Cyder mill taken down.

SUNDAY NOV. 29th. Attended Mr. Marsh's meeting. - Weather much like that of yesterday. -

MONDAY NOV. 30th. A pleasant day, tho' it was some cold in the morning. - Carried out 20 loads of manure. -

Summary of the weather of the month.-

The weather at the close of this month seems much milder than at its commencement. Finally a great part of the month has been tolearable winter weather, which may ease us of so much in April next, it is certainly favorable weather at present on account of hay. -

78 TUESDAY DECEMBER 1st. Work the same as it was yesterday - The S. barn-yard was clear'd of manure, 20 loads were drawn out. The whole No. drawn away from the barn this fall amounts to 86 which is deposited on the E. part of the S. meadow A. M. wind S. cloudy. P. M. - wind S. E. some slight squalls of snow - air chilly. -

WEDNESDAY DEC. 2d. Agreeable to his promise Mr. Elijah Fay jun'r. came on in pretty good season this morning & butcher a cow. We dispatch'd the job rather before noon. She was 4 years of age

E. Fay Jun. assists at butchering a cow.

Major Norton takes 248lbs. a hind & fore quarter -248lb
Mr. Tim Palmer takes 118lb & I save myself 135 - -253
The hide weighs 76 lb. & the tallow 40 - - - - - 116
Total 617lb

Ira carried Norton's beef to him & got some work done at his shop & return'd home & drew up a load of wood, & that completed his days work. Hiram & I split up some wood for our P. M.'s task. It has been quite windy & stormy from the S. -

THURSDAY DEC. 3d. A day of thankgiving and praise theout the State, labor was suspended & divine service perform'd by Mr. Rathbone of Hoosack, with whom the people are much pleas'd. - At supper none but my own family except Elder Stark & Mrs. Stark were present. - Spent the evening verry agreeably at Mrs. Hinman's where Mr. Marsh entertain'd the company with a good discourse upon different subjects & particularly that of religion - It was past 11 in the evening when we return'd home - Mild weather wind. -

Thanksgiving

FRIDAY DEC. 4th. In the morning I settled accounts with Mr. Van Husan Dr. Swift's agent & found myself indebted to him in the sum of 9 dollars for which I gave a note of hand. - When this business was finish'd I went to neighbor Wm. Norton's to see him about buying a span of horses of me; but he was not at home, therefore I came home & from hence went to the congregationalist society meeting, from thence I came home. - A cold, but pretty pleasant day wind N. W. -

Settle accounts with Dr. Swift.

SATURDAY DEC. 5th. Ira & I drew up some wood & fill'd the horse-barn with hay in A. M. It being verry stormy in the P. M. we kept within doors. Ira mended old harnesses. - It began to storm in the early part of the day & finally continued & prov'd to be verry uncumfortable - the wind being high in the E. which bro't with a considerable quantity of snow. -

SUNDAY DECEMBER 6th. I attended public worship. Mr. Stark

78 preach'd. - It was cold and stormy wind pretty high from N. W. It's now tolerable sleighing. I went to meeting in my sleigh. -

MONDAY DEC. 7. We drew up 5 loads of wood. - Hiram enter'd Mr. Ira Loomis's school, not being able to do much work on account of 2 sore fingers. - Middling cold fair & Pleasant. -

Loomis's Shool.

TUESD'Y DEC. 8th. The most important occurrence of this day was my going over to Ovait's in Pownal & selling a mare to him which till of late belong'd to Jonas. I took a Note of Almon Ovait of the value of about 40 dollars - or as the note is written 5000 feet of white pine boards to become due on the on the first day of next June. I think I sold her for a low price & so did Ovait, he had nothing to say against the price. She is a verry spirited beast, being equally as good under a saddle as in the gears. On my return from thence I call'd on Neighbor Wm. Norton, with whom I took supper. After spending a little time in conversation, I came up to his brother John's where finding the conversation pretty entertaining, I was indue'd to spend the evening. - Ira has drawn some wood to-day. The weather was hazy during the day, & cloudy & stormy at night.

A horse sold to Ovait - who gives 79 a note to be paid in boards See June 6th.p.112.

WEDNESDAY DEC. 9th. Thresh'd 16 bbshl corn & sent it to mill. Mild temperate weather, snow is going off. Ira went to mill however in the sleigh. -

THURSDAY DEC. 10th. We thresh'd 5 bushels ~~of corn & sent it to mill~~ of oats. The sleighing is ruin'd, the snow being all melted off in the road, it only remains in patches about in the lots & on the mountains.

Threshing poor sleighing)

FRIDAY DEC. 11th. Ira & I chop'd up 3 beach trees which grew in spenland, sled length, they stood in the sheeppasture, a N. W. division of the farm. The reason why we were so long about it was because they were so well stack'd with limbs. I suppose I should have suffer'd them to stand, were it not for my plowing that pasture next year, for wheat. Pleasant weather. Cloudy - wind variable, sometimes S. W. & sometimes N. W.

Vide June 23d. 1808

SATURDAY DEC. 12th Ira & I chop'd wood in the woods. I rode to town just at night to get the weight of a cow which I had sold to Mr. Church, which I found to be 665 lb. Church gives me 4 dollars per cwt, it stands me in 26 dollars & 60 cents. The cow was fatted on potatoes, hay & grass. I have done sending to our School, under its present regulations. I think it is hardly right to give Mr. Loomis $14 a month for teaching so small a school as

Choping Churches Beef.

Loomis's School

79 his is likely to be. Another objection I have, is against the manner in which the school commenc'd -viz without calling ameeting of the district. - If there has been such a meeting, it was without my knowledge. Therefore until some new regulation has been adopted with regard to this school, I shall withhold my ~~fr~~ support from it. - Muddy & cloudy.

SUNDAY DEC. 13th. Was a verry rainy day, and none of us went to church. - The wind was S. E. or rather more S. -

MONDAY DEC. 14th. This day I butcher'd four hogs. Mr. Elijah Fay jun'r. was the only man I had, besides my own helf, who is verry good at such kind of business as well as any sort of ~~sort~~ work done on a farm. I have had considerable dealing with him lately & I must acknowledge him to be a kind & obliging neighbor. We have had a pleasant day tho' some mudy. The air was mild. My hogs were fatter & weigh'd more than my most sangrime expectations had estimated them at. They were fed on rye for sometime & ~~then~~ afterwards on soak'd corn. Three of them I fed; my father kept 1 - the ligtest. I begin with setting down the heaviest - - -330 lb.

Hogs butcher'd Fay assists.

80 Weight of pork.

The weight of my pork in 1805 & 1806 may)	306
be seen in Vol. 1 page 11. & Vol. 2d p79)	304
and be compar'd with this. I have got)	300
some old pork left, but if I had not)	
us'd it sparingly the bottom of the bar-)	1240 total

rel would have been found before this time. - A new neighbor has just arriv'd - has bo't those tan-works lately own'd by James Street. His name is Parsons. - Mr. Lewis had Ira & the waggon & horses to carry some hay & somthing else from the Street house to his present place of residence, which is in the house once possess'd Mr. T. Follett. NB. These hogs I have butcher'd to-day were yearlings last spring. -

Mr. Parson comes on to Mrs. Street's possessions.

TUESDAY DEC. 51th. In the morning I pack'd my pork - making about 1½ barrel for this side of the way. Spent the rest of the day in doing detatch'd pieces of work, among other things we fix'd the brook in such a manner as to prevent its over flowing the meadow. In the evening I went down to neighbor Parsons's where I was verry agreeably entertain'd by his brother, who is a sound republican, reading an oration & some excellent passages from a newspaper. Cloudy dull weather - wind S. Had a squall of snow P. M.

S. Parsons reads an oration

WEDNESDAY DEC. 16th. Last night & a great part of the day much rain decended from the clouds like a torrent which has caus'd the streams to rise considerably. In the A. M. & most of the P. M. the wind was S. & S. W., but toward night it came in short & violent gusts which over turn'd several pieces of fence. There was but

A great quantity of rain fell Fences blown down.

80 little work ~~was~~ done & that consisted in chopping & putting up fences. - P. M. I rode to town & got some blacksmithing done. About 7 in the evening I came home & spent it contentedely by my fire-side. The air was mild till toward night when it became cold and freezing. -

THURSDAY DEC. 17th. Set up the hay racks in the S. barnyard. Ira drew wood from the Sheeppasture. - Cold in the morning - pleasant and fair during the remainder of the day. -

Chosen a juror on a free-hold court.

FRIDAY DEC. 18th. I was put on a free-hold Jury - On a suite between Moses Sage & Critler. (I do not reccollect his christian name) The former bro't forward testimony to prove that the latter had broken open a certain house which he had built for the accommoddion of a certain number of his workmen, & threw the effects thereof out of doors & took up his abode therein without the knowledge or leave of the former. The case was so clearly in Sage's favor, that it requir'd verry little time for the Jury to ~~retur~~ make up their verdict which was in Sage's favor.

Saturday Dec.)

81 Ira drew some wood & took care of the cattle. Hiram spent his time in cyphering. - It has been verry windy & pretty cold - rough traveling in the road. The wind was from North West. -

SATURDAY DEC. 19th. Spent the day in partitioning off the barnyard into smaller enclosures for the better accommodation of our cattle. Weather rough & changable had some severe squalls & some verry fair weather, cold. Elder Stark tarried here to-night. -

Mr. Stark

SUNDAY DEC. 20th. Mr. Stark preach'd to us - Fair weather - quite cold in the forepart of the day, but more mild toward night. - The roads are rough. -

One year since the beginning of this journal Cow sold to Cush'n 30 Dec.p82)

MONDAY DEC. 21 year This day completes one whole since I began keeping my journal in this book. Our business was chopping wood on the hill ~~the~~ W. of the Sugar-orchard. I sold another fat cow to Mr. Cushman, the weight of which was 586 lb. That which Church had, weigh'd 665 lb. - - - - 665
586

total 1251 at $4 cwt.
They bring me in, at the rate of 4 dollars per cwt.
dollars & cents. It has been a pleasant day - wind Southwardly. There is no snow on the ground excepting some few banks under fences - in deep hallows & on the mountains. People are generally wishing for snow, tho' it is by no means the worst waggoning that

The season

81 ever was at this season. The ground is firmly frozen. -

TUESDAY DEC. 22d. Work the same as on the precceding day.

Good weather. -

WEDNESDAY DEC. 23d. from this day to the end of the week our work was of one kind only, that of chopping wood. Mr. Gates Doty work'd for us 2 or 3 days during the time. The weather has been as uniform as my business, being generally pleasant & middling cold, & dry. -

G. Doty

SUNDAY DEC. 27th. I did not go to church This day. To our surprise & indignation, this morning we found 3 of our sheep dead in the meadow but a small distance from the barn. From their mangled appearance we suppose it be the work of some of our neighbor's dogs. The skins, wool & tallow will be all we can save of them the rest will be given to the swine. On of these sheep belong'd to Lydia. being one of the twins which her cosset brought up during last season. I think it is the fattest lamb I ever saw. Thus have we lost 9 sheep this season see Saturday & Sunday. 18th & 19th. of July p. 46th.-

Dogs kill sheep

This evening I attended a meeting of our school district which was verry full. It's business was to stop Mr. Loomis's school which had been set up & supported by a small part of the district only & against the minds of the majority of which I was one. -

82 MONDAY DEC. 28th. With the assistance of Mr. Horatio G. Doty we butcher the last beef cow that I have fatted this season, being the 5th in number, her weight is as follows-

A Cow of our own butcher'd
See Sept.16th
See Ded.21
~~See Dec.-2d~~
Dec. 2

hide	74
tallow	100
other parts	452
total	626
	626
	617
to which may be added sold to Church	665
& that sold to Cushman	586
Suppos'd weight of that which was sold to Mr.Sage	560
	2437
by adding 617 omited before)	3054

TUESDAY DEC. 29. No business of importance done at home. I was in town most of the day, sometimes in Court & the greatest pat of the time in Norton's shop to get a young mare shod. When I was comeng home the beast acted verry unwieldly & came verry near throwing me, however I made a safe return, but am determined that she shall be handled more frequently than she has been hitherto - Wind S. E. - cold & storny - wind verry high in the evening. - rainy night. -

82

Ira carries Mr.Parsons to a Ball at the 4 corners.-

WEDNESDAY DEC. 30th. In the forenoon some wood was drawn from an Oak which grew on the rocks directly W. of the house. When Ira chopped down the tree, it made a surprizing pitch from the top of the hill to the bottom, so that it is verry convenient getting it away. Parsons hir'd my waggon horses & Ira with them to go to a ball at the 4 corners in Hoosack. Weather raw & chilly - cloudy. -

THURSDAY DEC. 31st. See yesterday. I have skip'd one day, which was spent crawing 5 loads of wood.

82 JAN'Y. 1st. FRIDAY. Threshing was the chief business cold & freezing.

Wm. Norton hires a horse of me on Sunday.

SATURDAY JAN. 2d. This day we thresh'd our winter wheat. Clear pleasant weather.

SUNDAY JAN'Y 3d. Did not attend meeting. Mr. William Norton was at my house this evening & took home a horse of mine, which he has hir'd for some time. It was moderately stormy & pretty cold. -

Verry cold Threshing

MONDAY JAN'Y. 4th. The cold was more piercing than at any time before, this winter from this time till ~~Tuesday~~ Wednesday night I was engag'd in the threshing business & Ira in drawing wood. That wheat whi

Pages 83 and 84 missing from the Journal.

85 to Hopkinton. -

Thursing

WEDNESDAY JAN'Y. 27th. Ira and I pursu'd the business of threshing rye. Thawy, cloudy, weather wind S.

same -

THURSDAY JAN'Y. 28th. I took my horses & rode about doing errands till toward night - chop'd a little wood. Ira & Hiram follow'd the business of threshing. Last night the weather chang'd at it became cold & has remain'd so during the whole day - cloudy. -

Friday A load of wood to the school house.

Nothing of great importance occur'd this day. Ira Hiram drew a load of wood to the school house. It was tolerable winter weather. -

SATURDAY JAN. 30th. 28 bushels of rye were clean'd up to-day &

85
28 bhls.
rye. -

carried in to the house. Adam Waters had a Barrel of cyder. Weather middling cold - wind north. -

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 31st. I rode to church in my sleigh tho' the sleighing was verry poor - and according to the present aspect of the weather I don't look for much better. This morning the sky was verry serene, but it soon began to be overcast & the S. wind began and continu'd blowing all day, which made some impression on the ice and frozen ground. This appearance of things makes it rather doubtful about my setting out on my journey to Hopkinton, because when I begin that job I wish to have the verry best of sleighing, and not be compel'd to drag along on bare ground.

The season

Review of the month

This month has slip'd away without a great deal of verry cold weather, it has afforded us some verry good sleighing, but now within a few days it has been thawy by which the sleighing has been much injur'd. In open land snow lies only in banks near fences and other places where the wind happen'd to drift it. Such a time in winter always seems melancholly to me. I hope the weather may soon change for better. -

L. Dewey

MONDAY FEB'Y. 1st. Mr. Loan Dewey and I made a sleigh-box. Ira was sick, and I was not verry well - Rainy, cloudy, weather wind S. till just at night - when it turn'd and blew up cold from N. W. - Isaac Godfrey gave me a note of forty dollars for a horse, to be paid on the first day of Feb'y., 1810. -

I Godfrey's Note. -

Drawing wood. -

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 2d. Ira and I work'd in the woods - from whence we drew 7 loads in to the pasture E. of the (shug) sugar orchard & 1 load was bro't home. Hiram cut up the wood which Ira carried there last Saturday. - Air cold - wind blew up chilly from N. W.

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 3d. Business not of the first importance - Mended the hearth in the N. Room - drew 2 loads of hay into the horse stable - and party shod the sled. Hiram chop'd some wood Ira went down to brother Sam'l Robinson's in A. M. Cloudy, wind high from S. W. - It is not a practice with me to write or speak against my neighbors; but one who lives on Mr. Brown's Ryley farm deserves high censure for suffering his flock of sheep (perhaps 20 in number) to lie on my wheat field several hours in a day. I have sent complaints to him repeatedly on the subject but they produce little alteration in his conduct. It is true he has driven them out of the field several times, which was of but little consequence when he was out of sight of them because he has no yard to keep them in - And when they are out of my field - they are on my pasture adjoining it - Such a neighbor I do not want near me. I had much

Complaint) against a neighbor)

86

86 rather be without any neighbors at all than to be plagu'd with such - So much for this time (See October 1st p. 64 - April 25 - p. 24 Look at Oct. 14th. p. 68.-

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 4th. I did some business in town, bo't some small articles which Jonas desir'd me to get for him. Viz tea, spice, &c. Ira and Hiram thresh'd, some of the time, but did not pursue the business with spirit because Ira was unwell with a bad cold. The weather moderately stormy - wind N. E. no S. W. - I came to a settlement with Capt. Sage to-day and found that he ows me about 8 shillings. -

Settle with Capt. Sage.

FRIDAY FEB!Y. 5th. Ira drove down the sled loads of wood & I chop'd Hiram chop'd wood at the door. Mr. Joseph Thomas an old neighbor of mine has come to make me a visit. His place of residence is in Hardwick in this State. I made a rough estimate of the worth of the cattle and horses on this farm (see p. 75th. Nov. 14th) ~~and~~ & found that to set them at a low price they amounted the sum of 550 dollars. - Wind S. E. cloudy chilly and unpleasant. -

J. Thomas arrives here.

Value of live stock on the farm

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 6th. Hiram and I work'd in the woods and Ira drew wood. The wind blew up chilly and cold from the S. E.

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 7th. Absent from Church. - Weather dull, cold & uncomfortable. An old drunken man came to my who was not a little troublesome, having been well plied with cyder, he was verry noisy & saucy. He asked for cyder as soon as he had enter'd the hous - I refus'd to give him any at first, supposing he had receiv'd enough already. But was at last induc'd by his promising to go away, to give him a half pint. He dispatch'd his cyder and took a little food and went his way. He call'd himself "Uncle Sam" or "Uncle Sam. Gray!

"Uncle Sam'l Gray"

See June 4 th. 1808. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 8th. The boys & myself work'd for brother Sam'l. Robinson at drawing wood. He work'd with us only 2 or 3 hours in the P. M. having been away to work for one of his neighbors in the A. M. I conclude we drew up wood enough to last him between 3 & 4 weeks. He is soon to set out on a journey for Mr. Anthony Haswell jun'r. to Harrison in York State from whence he is to proceed to Hopkinton and bring Ira's wife with him when he returns home. Variable winds - warm and thawy - cloudy. - This morning we drew a dead sheep from the bottom of the well. She had been in all night. The occasion of it's falling into the well, was by being accidentally enclos'd in a little yard on the N. side of it - and mistaking the curb for a part of the fence, she made a fattal leap which carried her to the bottom of the well. We have lost 10 of our sheep since the month of July

Draw wood for S. Robinson jun.)

10th sheep drawn dead from the well.

87 (see 18 & 19th of that month p. 46 also the 27th of Dec. p. 81) by accidental deaths.

Preparations for Mr. Robinson's journey. - Mr. Thomas pays a small school bill. Mr. Loomis paid. -

TUESDAY FEB'Y 9. The weather being stormy and brother Sam, having promis'd to set out on his journey the day after to-morrow - we were employ'd in preparing for that event. Mr. Thomas paid a small School bill due to Miss Lydia Loomis which I should have been oblig'd to pay, if he had not, because I was the collector. I also paid Ira Loomis for sending to School to him when he taught in Dec. (See p. 79 - 12th day) its amount 48 cents. I sent only a few days - I found it was going to be a pretty dear school so I took my children out of it and am not sorry for it yet. It snow'd most of the time to-day wind S. W.

Mr. Thomas goes off. -

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 10th. I did not labor any, but was busy in doing errands. Ira & Hiram thresh'd rye. - (Mr. went on to) Mr. Thomas set out for home (Hardwick Vt.) Weather stormy and pretty cold. -

Mr. Rob'n sets out for Hopkinton - March 1st 89th p. -

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 11. Samuel Robinson jun'r commenc'd his journey for Hopkinton. He carries a load for young Anthony Haswell to Malone, besides which he carries some light articles for Jonas. Ira's wife will come with him to the old home. This is the important event which happen'd here this day. Sam carries a number of letters from myself Ira & Hiram to Jonas Jared and Esquire Langhlin. - Warm thawy - sky a little hazy.

Simon Harwood.

FRIDAY 12th. & & SATURDAY 13th. I was absent on a visit with my mother and Mrs. Harwood to Mr. Asa Doty's in Stamford Vt. On my return I found Simon Harwood (a cousin of mine) who I was very glad to see. Yesterday Ira and Hiram chop'd Sam Robinson wood. Today they have been threshing rye. Good weather over head, but rather thawy under foot. -

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 14th. Went to meeting. Cloudy-grew colder and was some stormy - so as to help sleighing considerably. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 15th. We drew wood. Simon & his company pursu'd his journey for Pittsford. Cold - wind high * N. W. -

Quantity of wood-previous to this date.

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 16th. Early this morning I rode to Capt. Hendryx's. As to what follow'd it is the same as above. I reckon'd up 82 loads of wood that we have drawn to the door this season. (I reckon) I suppose little more than 100 loads will last us till another winter. Good weather.-

87 Oblig'd to attend Court. Jour'l continu'd by Hiram, till March 1st.

Being drawn out as one of the standing Jury during the session of Supreme court here. I shall be oblig'd to quit my business at home for some time, therefore I shall discontinue this journal until I return to my private concerns - Hiram writes what follows. -

WEDNESDAY Ira & I thresh'd rye. Stormy wind S. W. -

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 17th. We drew four loads of wood, and shod the nose of the sled. Ira chop'd. Air keene wind strong from N. W., some few flying clouds. -

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 18th. Our business continu'd the same. We got 5 loads. A fair day. -

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 19th The weather being rather stormy we drew only three

88 loads of wood & provided some to last over Sunday. At night Ira went with the sleigh to bring my father home from court, but he did not find him by some means or other, because my father got home some time before he did. However Ira had the ride. The wind has been verry strong in the S. all day and was quite snowy in the P. M. tho' there was not a verry large quantity added to what is already on the ground. -

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 20th. Father and mother rode to Pownal to attend divine service there and see a number of persons baptis'd. Last night the snow fell considerably, perhaps three inches, but the wind has been so high from the S. as to blow it about a good deal. It has been pretty chilly to-day and some cloudy. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 21st. Our people return'd from Pownal time enough for my father to attend court. Ira & I went into the court chamber & heard the trial of Wilson & Howze for ~~sel~~ selling liquor by a less measure than is allow'd by law to store keepers. It was not prov'd against them, but the character of their shop has receiv'd no benefit from it, because from the evidence given in it appears that it has been a propertipling shop. It is hoped that a reformation ~~may take a reformation~~ may take place at that store as well as all others of the same character. Judge Tyler censur'd it sharply. It was about sun down when we return'd home. Cloudy - wind high in the S. -

Trial of Wilson & Hawse. -

TUESDAY FEB'Y 22d. In the A. M. mov'd two loads of hay from the great barn to the horse-barn. P. M. about 2 O'clock we went in to the woods with the sleigh and got a load of short-wood which we had the misfortune to overset, but it was soon reloaded and bro't safe home. We bro't

88 down 2 loads more on the sled which consisted of bass-logs - That ended the day's work. Pleasant and middling cold. -

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 23d. Tho' it was late in the A. M. when we got into the woods, by being dilligent after once getting at the business, we bro't down 5 loads of wood. Ira does the chopping and I drive the horses. Grandfather takes almost the exclusive care of the creatures at the barn during the day and at night - and cuts his own fire-wood. Ira fodders at the barn in the morning and takes all the care of the horses. Now somebody might take the trouble to say to me. - What do you do? Why to tell the truth I suppose I do the least of the three. viz cut fire-wood for one house milk two cows and feed a young calf -- this is my night & morning task. Presently there will be more for me to do in the line of milking and feeding calves. Some cloudy - air cloudy wind N.

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 24th. No difference beteeen the business of this day and yesterday. Air keen and piercing - sky serene-with a few clouds wind N. W.

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 25th. A. M. was verry cold as had been the preceding night but more moderate in the P. M. Ira drew wood for Maj'r. Norton. I chop'd wood at the door. -

Ira works for Maj'r. Norton

Same

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 26th. Ira did a hard day's work with the hors's at Maj'r Norton's. He drew 5 loads of wood to-day and 4 yesterday. I attended Court but there was nothing of much importance before it. The case between Peck and Primdle was tried - the latter being found guilty of assault and battory against the former was oblig'd to pay 6 dollars damages. This was all the Court did to-day. Moderately stormy wind S.

89

Peck & Primdle

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 27th. My father and others of the family went to Church in in a sleigh, but found it hard rubbing on account of poor sleighing. It has been warm and thawy during the whole day. -

Ira went to bed appearance well enough last night, before morning he was seiz'd with the cholic and was oblig'd to rise take some medicine, having previously vomited pretty freely. After being up awhile he went to bed and slept quite well till morning, but he has not recover'd by considerable yet. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 28 Was taken up in chopping wood at the door. Business was not driven with that spirit which characterizes the works of the industrious. I confess my excuse is frivolous and will not be admited by a true

89 deciple of Solomon or Franklin. I have us'd myself to choping but little this winter so that if I were to lay out all my strength and work ever so steadily, I should make but little impression on our wood-pile. Another reason is because Ira was unwell and was gone most of the day down to Uncle Sam's and father is still on Jury; which left me alone and being naturally averse to labor, work'd in a verry dillatory manner. Nowev I'm like other sinners, I can say "I mean to reform bye & bye". What I have written here will reflect no honor upon me "I'm of your opinion" says a reader, who may chance to see it.

Uncommonly warm - smokey - wind S. The snow goes off verry fast. The weather has been pretty uniform during this month and pretty temperate - sleighing quite tolerable - On the whole it has been verry good weather considering the season. - In putting down the dates I have made some mistakes. I have written an account of the 17th of this month, but forgot to place the date against it, therefore since that day I have put down each day one day behind hand, there are 29 days in Feb'y this year. -

MARCH FIRST Tho' it was good weather for business, I must own little was done by me. Ira was so unwell as not to be able to do much today. Notwithstanding the sameness of business I have something which will produce some sort of diversity in this journal. Father was dismiss'd from the jury to the great joy of himself and family (see Feb'y 16th.). A little in the evening Mr. Sam'l Robinson arriv'd from Hopkinton with Ira's family. Of this more will be said another day. Warm, cloudy, wind S. and smokey. My father will now resume his journal - H. H. -

S. Robinson arrives from) Hopkinton) Hiram's journal ends

WEDNESDAY MARCH 2d. In the A. M. I did not attend to one kind of business, but was busy about different sorts of work - chop'd wood some - took care of loose matters which had been neglected while I was absent from my domestic concerns. I stuck pretty close to my work in the P. M. - split up a fine parcel of oven-wood. Ira and Hiram thresh'd rye. The weather was verry fine, not a cloud to be seen - the air was verry dry - and pretty sharp in the shade, wind N. W. -

90 My family leave their old dwelling) & move in to my father's house. -

THURSDAY MARCH 3d. An event of considerable consequence happen'd in the family this day. Ira & his family now occupy the house which I have liv'd in these 17 years. My family are now in my father's house. His family and mine will be consider'd as one for the future, and as long as he lives will be it's head. As to Mr. Robinson's journey he says the snow beyonnd the lake was verry deep, which caus'd him considerable trouble in getting along; however in going out or coming home he met with nothing remarkable until he arriv'd at Rupert where the snow left him which oblig'd him to quite his

90 sleigh and perform the remainder of his journey in a waggon. - (See March 1st.) It has been a pleasant mild day - wind S.. This P. M. I had business in town with the constable concerning the cent tax. -

FRIDAY MARCH 4th. We ground our axes and chop'd some. Hiram went to town in the P. M. to see a noted criminal stand in the pillory and receive 45 stripes at the whipping post. Smokey moderate weather - warm - Wind South. -

Mr. Robinson informs us that our friends in Hopkinton were all in health and appear'd to be in a prosperous condition. Dr. Hopkins was preparing for a long journey - which he did not know how far might extend - It was probable he would go to New Orleans. Jonas was in such a hurry that he could not write by brother Robinson, but told him he should transmit a letter to me by mail. -

Rye threshing done. Page 92

SATURDAY MARCH 5th. This morning we winnow'd the last of our rye which amounted 33 bushels, it was carri'd from the barn in to the house and 13 bushels more of were thersh'd out and measur'd, which completed the business of threshing for this season. As soon as I have time to attend to it I shall make a statement of every thing that has been rais'd on the farm within the last season. See Friday March 25th.

This morning the air was verry soft and mild - wind strong in the S. but before night it came about into N. W. and grew cooler. - the snow is now chiefly carried off from the low open land, and the quantity has been much reduc'd in the woods.

SUNDAY MARCH 6th. None of our people went to meeting, cold wind N.

MONDAY MARCH 7 Chop'd wood, Ira at his door and myself and Hiram at my father's. Verry pleasant, but cold - wind N.

Settle accounts with Hicks & Norton. Dr. Hopkins

TUESDAY MARCH 8th. Went to town and settl'd accounts with Mr. Hicks and Maj'r Norton; to the latter I found myself indebted $5..73 cents. When I return'd home at night I found Dr. Hopkins & his son at my house, who were well and their people so. The Dr. is going to Pennsylvania about 140 miles beyond Philadelphia , his son is about to enter Union college in Skenectaday. Being engag'd to go in the stage which starts at 5 in the morning, they could not tarry with me, otherwise I should have been verry glad if they would have staid.- It storm'd

91 this P. M. after having blown verry hard from the S. all the A. M. A small quantity of snow fell. The storm ceas'd before night. Mr. Doty from Wilmington got here this evening on visit. The boys chop'd wood when it

91 didn't storm - during - the stormy weather, Hiram spent his time in reading and writing - Ira made whippltrees. -

MARCH 9th. The waggon which Robinson bro't from Rupert

Harwood's waggon belongs one of Uncle Zachariah Harwood's sons who resides in that town. Besides him that owns the waggon he has 2 or 3 other sons living there who are often at their father's on a visit. I took the waggon up to Uncle Zach's this morning in order that some of them might take it home. After spending some time in conversation I went down to Mr. Ezra Doty's and settled accounts with him. I ow'd him 9 dollars & 5 cents, 8 of which I have paid him in cash, 1 dollar and 5 cents remain due. Nothing remarkable happen'd in the weather. -

THURSDAY MARCH 10th. The A. M. we spent chopping at the door. In the P. M. went down to Capt. Nortons and with the as-

Make ropes) sistance of young John made ropes. Air chilly - wind S. cloudy.

FRIDAY MARCH 11th. Rode in a sleigh with mother Lucy & Lydia as

Sleighride to Mr.Weeks) far as Mr. David Weeks's. Left the girls, who were invited to a quilting at Mr. Perry's on the mountain, and return'd home in the P. M. poor sleighing - Stormy and chilly wind N. W.

SATURDAY MARCH 12th. We drew 5 loads of wood and sent Hiram over to Weeks's after the girls - Cloudy - A. M. Clear in the P. M. Air keen - wind N. W. -

SUNDAY MARCH 13th. Sister Lucy & I were the only persons in the family who attended divine service. We went on horseback. Chilly and cloudy - wind N. W. -

MONDAY MARCH 14th. Chop'd wood at the door. It snow'd moderateratly the whole day - wind N. W. -

TUESDAY MARCH 15th. Weather verry fine - wind N. Business of same kind as the day before. -

WEDNESDAY MARCH 16th. The S. wind blew pretty briskly, so that it was verry uncumfortable working out, however I pursu'd my business from about 10 in the A. M. till sun an hour or 2 high, when it began to rain. Some time in the evening the wind veer'd about into the N. W. Hollanbeck's sheep were on my grain as has been common for them almost every day this winter. I sent Ira to drive them off, he did so accordingly & return'd with the welcome news that Mr. Wm. Norton has bo't the place

91 on which Hallenbeck lives. Norton has order'd him off. See p. 86 - Feb'y 3d. -
It has been rather stormy - wind S. -

THURSDAY MARCH 17th. Choping wood was our business. - Wind high in the N. W. Cold and freezing. -

FRIDAY MARCH 18th. Business much like yesterday, except getting in 2 loads of hay from the barn to the horse-stable. We put the old waggon together & carried the wheels of the new one to be fix'd at the blacksmith's. There was a verry strong and chilly, breeze from S. - Indication of a storm. - Ground frozen in the morning.

92 SATURDAY MARCH 19th. Work the same as yesterday. Split & pil'd considerable quantity of wood. Stormy most of the day - wind N. -

SUNDAY MARCH 20th. Went to Church in a waggon. It was stormy and windy the greatest part of the day - wind S. E. - Hail'd & rain'd. The snow is off in open land except by the side of fences and in other places where the sun has little influence.

MONDAY MARCH 21st. My business continu'd to be what it was on Saturday. Hiram and Isaac Hopkins travel'd on foot down to elder Stark's in Pownal. (distant 7 miles), but they did not find them at home, on that account they return'd from thence about 2 in the P. M. -

TUESDAY MARCH 22d. In the morning Ira and Hiram went down to neighbor Jewett's on a particular errand. When they return'd we took our axes and prun'd the whole orchard. In the morning the ground was considerably frozen, but the frost was soon drawn from the ground by a strong S. wind, which bro't with it clouds, which appear'd like rain.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 23d. Ira with the horses work'd on the mountain for Adam. Hiram and I work'd at home cutting and piling wood. Wind S. cloudy. -

THURSDAY MARCH 24th. Stormy in a moderate degree - wind S. Not much work done. Settl'd accounts with Mr. Joseph Norton, - with William & John Norton - and with Cyrus Hill.-

FRIDAY MARCH 25th. Split and pil'd Ira's wood. High March winds from N. W. the strongest we have yet had.
A few days since I promis'd to make a statement

92 of the quantity of everry thing produc'd on this farm within the last season

Winter wheat	16	bushels	11 Acres	(I had also about 35
Spring wheat	7½		2	(tons of hay. My corn
Rye	100		15	(fodder was equal to
Oats	35		1½	(4 tons - & the straw
Flax about*	200	cwt	½	(was as good as 3. So
Beans	3			(that I may state it
Corn	80	sound	3½	(at 42 tons. -
Potatoes	276		1	see Oct. 13th
				See p. 75th.

SATURDAY MARCH 25th. A verry large Oak tree which stood in the sheep pasture near Brown's woods was cut down by Ira & Isaac Hopkins A. M. From which we drew 5 small loads of wood, collected chiefly from the broken parts of the top which being cut up at the door ended the labor of the day. Cold and frozen in the morning, but warm and pleasant during the rest of the day wind South. -

SUNDAY MARCH 27th. Attended divine service. Warm and cloudy.

MONDAY MARCH 28th. In the A. M. We split oven wood at Ira's door P. M. cut 3 lengths of rails of the great oak. I took the butt Ira the next - Hiram the next. Paid my school bill to Miss Clarrissa Norton - 1 doll and ten cents. Squally in A. M. Cold & blustering from N. W. -

TUESDAY MARCH 29th. Isaac Hopkins and I split rails out of that oak mention'd yesterday. The stuff was verry bad to get out with considerable difficulty we made out to get to 50

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*Half of this paid for dressing - so that it leaves is only 100 cwt.

93 rails from 2 cuts. Ira's business was in the A. M. drawing down wood - made by that part of the oak which could not be split. P. M. He and Hiram drew some rails - and mended the fence between the sheep-pasture and Brown's farm. -

The sky was clear - and the air cold - wind high N. W. -

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30th. Was town - meeting day. To describe all the altercations - quibles - strainings - and exertions made by each party to carry its point; - would be needless and uninteresting. (See March 1807, the last wednesday). Capt. Moses Robinson is elected first selectman - Joseph Wadsworth, Joseph Hinsdale, Timothy Harvy - Samuel Blackmer and the others. After a verry close attendence to the business before the meeting - with

Town-meeting & reflections on the same.

93 scarcely any cessation during the whole day - it came to a close about 7 in the evening - Pleasant - a little cloudy - wind S. - I did think last March meeting that the republicans would rouse up, and not elect Capt. Moses this year. But I have found myself disappointed - They have been impos'd upon this year by various means - One expedient made use of, was a subscription bill handed round for Mr. Marsh by Gov'r Robinson, which had his son Moses's name on it. (which he did not sign with his own hand) - This paper drew a number in to the snare. I was one who sign'd it - but since I found out that it was a bait made use of to influence good replicans in favor ~~of~~ of Capt. Moses, I have almost taken a resolution to have my name eras'd from it. If all the republicans had been as well establish'd in their opinion concerning Capt. Moses, I am certain it would take a better contriv'd stratagem than that I have mention'd, to shake them. What provokes me most is to see a father riding about electioneering for his son! this, I think is a shame to both of them. - I mention'd that paper in such a way that it might be understood that I was ensnar'd by it, but ~~on the~~ on the contrary it made no impression at all on me - I did not vote for Capt. Robinson - nor I don't think I ever shall. The Robinsons are in a quarrel among themselves - and will probably be the means of their own fall. I can say for one, that I am not under the direction of any of them in my political course. I shall always be my own judge in regard to that - Thus much on March - meeting. -

THURSDAY MARCH 31st. I was unwell so as not to be able to do any work. Ira and Hiram did little or nothing - the former not being verry well - and the latter having a poor disposition to work and much engag'd in reading newspapers.

The weather was rainy in the morning and cloudy and heavy during the remainder of it. - During this month we have had some verry fair days - little snow - considerable rain - cloudy most of the time - As to being verry cold or warm - we have not had the extreme of either - About the 20th there was some thunder - and since that time it has been known to thunder
94 little) several time. The streams have risen but in proportion to what they do some years. Vegetation is the same as it commonly is at this time. My grain on the ground looks pretty well - much better than it did last year. My hay holds out verry well - I expect to have a considerable quantity to summer over. - Our ears are now saluted with the sound of the notes of the robin, the sparrow, and others of the feather'd race who have return'd to our regions - from the South.-

APRIL 1st. FRIDAY Mended fences on the N. E. part of the farm -

Fences mended

between the little field and hogpasture. - Flying clouds from N. W. - wind pretty strong in that quarter - chilly

94 SATURDAY APRIL 2d. It was cold hazy weather. I didn't do a great deal of business. Betled manure in the meadows.- Frost is coming out of the ground. -

SUNDAY APRIL 3d. We were all at home. Hiram read one of President Davies's sermons - on the resurection day. - Snowy - cold chilly weather - snow melted as it fell.

MONDAY APRIL 4th. Drew away the manure from the horse stable - betled some dung in the meadow. - Kill'd about 20 young rats - and ~~one~~ an old one at the horse stable. Fair - wind N. -

TUESDAY APRIL 5th. In the A. M. we shovel'd manure and split up Oakwood at the door. P. M. Ira went with the horses and waggon to help Waters move and Hiram and myself went down to the S. end of the farm with an intention of mending the fence between Wm. Norton our farm. (see p. 24th.) But found that Hallenbeck or somebody else had carried off so many of the rails, that the fence could not be repair without new rails - so we left it and mended the S. line fence as far W. as the dry-brook. While busy about this job, Mr. Tim Palmer came to us. I had considerable conversation with him upon different subjects - among others our town-meeting happen'd to be the topic. I found the old man to be a firm republican. He is in favor of the embargo - But he is not a man of extensive information - his opportunity not being verry good. - His business with me was, to get leather of me for a pair of shoes, which I told him he might have. Mr. Palmer is a weaver - and generally does our weaving. - The air was chilly - wind N. W. cloudy - pretty cold at night. I think my grain looks middling well considering how much Hallenbeck's sheep have been on it this winter. The Dutchman is out of our neighborhood now - and Mr. Wm. Norton has bo't the place of Mr. Hinman and has taken possession of it.

Waters mov'd

Conversation with T.Palmer

95 WEDNESDAY APRIL 6th. Part of the A. M. was spent in drawing manure, but before noon Adam sent for the waggon to move his family - and Ira sent with it accordingly. Hiram and I took up a few apple-trees and planted them in vacant places in Clark's orchard - fill'd one or 2 vacancies in the young orchard. Isaac Hopkins was with us a considerable part of the time. After Ira had done working for Waters he went to mill - got home in forepart of the evening and bro't some news-papers with him. - Wind strong in N. W. - Flying clouds chilly toward night - cold eveing. -

Waters's family remov'd.

THURSDAY APRIL 7th. Drawing Dung on the little field was our business - Raw & chilly weather. -

95 FRIDAY APRIL 8th. The business of yesterday resum'd. Went to town just at night - from thence to brother Sam's and from thence home. Dry - windy weather - cold wind from N. W. -

Drawing manure.

SATURDAY APRIL 9. After mature deliberation I came to a resolution (of) to plow the great pasture on the S. E. corner of the farm where we had rye last year. We tackled 3 horses before the plow - one of which had never work'd in that situation - having been us'd only a few times last winter in the sleigh - ~~neth~~ notwithstanding that she did verry well. When I had seen the boys settled down to their business I return'd to this end of the farm and dug out stones in the meadow near Ira's house. A dry cold N. W. wind blew continually. Hiram led horses with his great coat and mittings on, during the whole day. My work happen'd to be pretty warm or I should have been more sensible of the cold. I know from its freezing that it was verry cold. -

Begin to plow

Verry cold

SUNDAY APRIL 10th. I tackl'd the waggon and with several of the family rode to church. The weather was dreadful cold and pierccing - at so late a season. Sky clear. -

Go to Church

MONDAY APRIL 11th. Ira went to mill in the morning - after his return from thence we plow'd the garden - P. M. We went to plowing in the field mention'd on Saturday, but the roughness of the weather soon oblig'd us to quit the business and return home - where our time was taken up in drawing in hay from the great barn to the horse - stable. Hiram and Isaac Hopkins went to Pownal to pay Elder Stark a visit. Wind high in S. E. snow'd considerably in the P. M. - cold - wind blew heavily at night from the S. E. -

Garden plow'd routh weather.-

TUESDAY APRIL 12th. Along in the fore-part of the day, it was so rainy that we could do but little business without doors - so that to take the day together we did but a few things worth mentioning. - Ira went to mill - plow'd some - split a large log which lay at the door. Hiram and Isaac got home at night from Pownal. Much rain fell last night.

96 WEDNESDAY APRIL 13th. Fast day. Mr. Marsh pronounc'd a verry smart sermon I think. At noon I went to Col'n Fay's - had some discourse with him upon politics - Saw Mr. Heman Fay who lately arriv'd in town from West point where he has been nearly a year at a military academy- where he fell sick during the winter and was verry much reduc'd - still remains in a poor state of health, but he is tho't to be getting better. - I hope he may

Mr. H.A. Fay.

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Documents accompaining) the Presidents message.

soon recover, as he is a friend for whom I have much respect. I borrow'd a set of newspapers which had the doccuments that accompanied the President's message of 22d March. Verry fair - The last rains have settl'd the roads ~~con~~ a good deal. -

Spreading manure. - Isaac Hopkins.

THURSDAY APRIL 14th. My labor was verry severe at spreading manure. - Isaac Hopkins took up a bit of an old shovel and work'd with me till he blister'd his hands. Ira & Hiram follow'd the business which we begun last Saturday. It was quite cool and windy from N. W. cloudy. -

Mrs. Harwood our of health

Mrs Harwood has been quite unwell for some days - She was so low to-day that I tho't it best to have the advice of a physician. Dr. Swift came down in the evening and left a puke for her to take to-morrow. Isaac Hopkins will set out for Vergeenes to-morrow. -

A letter to Jonas. -

I have written a long letter by him to brother Jonas - stating the situation of our town affairs - with some remarks on the embargo and Tim Pickering's letter - among other bad desings which that old tory appear'd to have in writing it. - I told Jonas that he meant to turn the election in Massachusetts against the republican - but how far he had succeeded - I could not then tell. But I have since learn'd that in Boston and other towns in that part of the state, that the republicans are the majority. In this letter to Jonas I have endeavor'd to give him some idea of my personal concerns - which I hope he will answer by imforming me of his own. - Now, I suppose if a stranger, were ~~he~~ to view my situation without any other evidence of the state of my affairs, than the first impressions he might imbibe from ~~it~~, outward appearances he would be apt to think "You have every thing that can administer to your happiness - here's a fine farm well water'd - fruitful in all kinds of grain, grass and fruit trees - a handsome stock of cattle well winter'd and hay enough still to feed them till the grass grows to a good length - good horses and a fine flock of sheep - why I should think that you ~~migh~~ might be happy here in your great house, full of every thing that is comfortable - to eat, drink, or wear". How amaz'd this stranger would be, were I to tell him that I was unhappy and dissatisfied with my situation? "How" - he would ask - Why because I don't feel contented. Here I am restrain'd from giving my reasons why it is so on account of making a difficulty in the family. Never since the 3d of last march have I enjoy'd myself so well as I us'd to. - The reasons I could state were it not as I before stated. I mean to content myself aswell as I can. -

Situation of my mind at this time.

I.Hopkins takes leave of us

FRIDAY APRIL 15th. This morning Isaac Hopkins took leave of us to return to Vergeenes. This young man is about 20 years of age - has spent about 3 years of his time at Burlington College, but is resolv'd not to enter a college again. He appears to possess an amiable dis-

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97 position - and has won the the affections of the whole family. - It was on the 18th of march that he came here from Skencetady. - A. M. - sow'd hay seed on the wheatfield S. of the meadow - finally I spent about half the P. M. at that business. - P. M. Hiram spread manure - Ira work'd with his three horses plowing the rye stubble. Pleasant and quite warm - more so than any day before, this spring - cloudy. -

SATURDAY APRIL 16th. Hiram and myself nearly finish'd spreading the manure in the S. meadow, there being a few heaps still remaining besides the bottoms of the heaps which remain frozen. This manure was carried out last Nov'r. - In the P. M. we work'd in the garden. - Ira pursu'd his old business - plowing. - Cloudy - wind high in the S. - rain'd some at night. -

Gardening

SUNDAY APRIL 17th. S. wind blew verry strong and bro't with it a great quantity of rain. - On that account we did not go to church - I read the Bible some, and heard Hiram read Washington's life - at that period when he was president - after his first election. -

MONDAY APRIL 18th. Ira pursu'd his work at the S. parts of the farm. - Myself and son split up the butt of that great oak which was spoken of in P. 92 Satd'y March 26th. A little before (sut-set) sun-set I rode to town - on business Maj'r. Norton - having finish'd that, I went to Smead's - and to Haswell's - and got "the World" and "Mental Repast". The following I copy from this day's "World - "Massachusetts election --. We have seen the votes for Gov'r. - in Suffolk (Boston) Middlesex Co. - 22 towns - Norfold 10, Plymouth 8, Essex 23, Bristol 4, Barnstable 2, Worcester 34, Hampshire 50, and Berkshire 27 - in the whole 44000 votes in 181 towns and of these, Mr. Sullivan's nett gain is, since last year 1074, and he is therefore most certainly reelected". This day's paper further informs - that Old Pickering's letter to Gov'r. Sullivan had 179,000 copies of it circulating on federal pack-horses - within 15 days after its date in Washington. 6,000 copies in pamphlet form, and 19,000 copies in newspapers were circulated in the benighted county of Hampshire. - What a destestable old vilian that Pickering is! Can it be, that such an old tory should be found in Congress. In Massachusetts they had a verry trying election, the result of which we shall know in a few days. Morning air chilly - clouds broken - wind S. - or rather S. E. - I cannot tell much about my wheat and yet. The rye looks green - was sow'd rather too thin (see p. 59 14th. of Sept.) Grass begins to start up - the birds are plenty and fill the woods and orchards with their harmonious sounds. Such things are verry cheering to us, after a long winter, tho' the season is quite ad-

Split rails

From the News-papers

Aspect of the season. See July 29 1808. - and p.101

97 vanc'd this year, to what it was last year. I have hay plenty - and my creatures all look well. - Young lambs just begin to come. (See Feb. 1807 last page) Capt. Norton began his potter business some time ago. If it hold out mild weather for a few days now, the trees would put forth their leaves. - The newspapers are now fill'd with Mr. Monroes correspondence with Mr. Canning concerning the Chessapeake affair and - impresssment of U. S. A.'s seamen. -

98 Last Thursday I spoke of Mr. Harwood's being unwell - On Friday she took a puke - since that time she has been pretty weak but seems to be gaining her health slowly. -

TUESDAY APRIL 19th. We tackled two teams this morning, so Ira and Hiram had each a team. Hiram's teams was compos'd of my Doty-mare (a smooth temper'd creature as ever liv'd) and a horse which Parsons owns. I once own'd him. From my hands he pass'd in to Isaac Godfrey's - who sold him to his present master. He was a verry good horse to plow with, last fall, but to-day, when first put into the gears, he refus'd to go, after going about with the empty plow awhile, he took hold and went off pretty well, but would be firy when going up rising ground. In one of his flirts he hitch'd the plow against a stone which lay out of sight and broke it. It was so near night that he was untackl'd. Now the ground which was plow'd to-day is corn hills and is to be sow'd with flax. It's the W. part of my last year's cornfield. (See Monday May 11th p. 30 - top of p. 32.) -

Plowing

My business was that of sowing hay-seed on the E. side of my wheat-field. (See p. 60)* Having finish'd that, I spread - the bottoms of the dungheaps which were frozen the other day. - See April 16. Col'n Robinson came here to-day and survey'd out a piece of land which we fenced into the S. W. corner our Young orchard from the time that that part of the farm was first clar'd off. It belongs to Col'n Robinson and measures about 3 fourths of an acre - On it there are apple-trees A. M. W'd. N. E. P. M. - wind N. W. air cool - squally.

Col. Robinson surveys out a piece of the Y orchard. See - 30th May.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 20th. This morning I rode with Mrs. Harwood as far as Waters's - 2d house beyond Dr. Swift's - and left her there and return'd home. Hiram and I work'd in the garden - Ira with 3 horses work'd at plowing on the S. part of the farm. - Sold a barrel of cyder to Parsons - Bo't 3 new hoes of Hurnt. Mrs. Harwood continues quite low and feeble in health - she however appears to be gaining slowly. - Hiram went to town at night - took a horse with him as far as Waters's for his mother to ride home - he went to Col. Fay's and got a late set of Aurora papers - from the 2d of this month to the 8th which contain many articles of importance. I read an excellent piece in favor of our embargo - taken from an English paper (Bell's weekly

Mrs. Harwood.

News-papers)

98 messenger) which clearly shews the wisdom of our government in adopting that measure. See p. 83 Hiram read Lord Grenville's speech in Parliament against the celebrated orders of council which I think was an able one - Warm pleasant day wind N. W. A great many people are now making their gardens. -

THURSDAY APRIL 21. Work'd in the garden. The females help'd sow it in the P. M. Ira plow'd as he did yesterday - Hiram cross-plow'd that field which I spoke of on the 19th. Isaac Godfrey hir'd ~~one~~ his horse to me for a few days, which enables us to go with 2 teams. Verry warm and pretty clear till the middle P. M. when it became cool and cloudy Wind N. Grass comes forward pretty fast. -

Godfreys horse

*Sept. 14

99 FRIDAY APRIL 22d. This A. M. sow'd my flax seed - little more than 1 bushel on about an acre of ground. I commonly sow it thicker than that, but I had no more seed (see p.28) My father's rule is to sow flax thin; but I have long since been convinc'd that that is an erroneous opinion.- Hiram harrow'd in the seed and plow'd some too. Ira's business - same as it has been. - P. M. I was not idle- ditch'd some. - Clear sky - cool morning - wind N. W. When flax is sown thick, it grows up fine and stands much better - makes handsomer cloth than when it is sown thin. Flax that is thin on the ground has a verry long stalk and is of great strength, but it is apt to be twisted about by wet weather and is hard to break; however there is one advantage in it which compensates in some measure for its defects in not producing so much flax - it certainly yields more seed. In cultivating the farm, I am greatly embarrass'd for the want of some rule to direct me how to proceed. I should like to own some writing on the subject of agriculture; But my information concerning such authors is verry limited - and my resources are not so great as to admit of purchasing the most useful of such books. -

Flax-seed sown - see p.126 July 26

on farming)

SATURDAY APRIL 23d. Capt. Norton agreeable to my request came this day and engrafted a considerable number of trees in the young orchard. I assisted him about it. He is an excellent hand at this business, because he uses so much judgement in setting the scion in such part of the tree as will be most advantageous for its growth. I have always been determin'd to take much pains with this orchard. Ira finish'd plowing that field which he has been plowing so long. Hiram finish'd off plowing the "Stalk-land". Mild weather - wind N. sky a little cloudy - with some smoke. This morning I sow'd a small piece of Oats W. of the flax - and another bit of ground with barley E. of the flax, which Hiram harrow'd in. This day closes a pretty busy week for our horses - they have plow'd about 20 acres within a fortnight.

Apple-trees ingrafted

Spring grain sown. -

99 SUNDAY APRIL 24th. We carri'd our women to Church and bro't the waggon home again for the sake of keeping the horses in the stable because it starves & tires horses too much that have work'd as hard as mine have, to stand in the gears all day with nothing to eat. The people (such as wish'd to ride) were bro't home in the same manner in which they went, in the morning. I did not go to church myself.. - Mr. Chester Mellen was bro't here in a coackee to-day, he could not ride faster than to walk the horses. His appearance is deathlike - I fear his stay with us in this world is not long. It is tho't that he has got the consumption. - A fine young man - just beginning the world - being in his 22d year - now almost in his grave!! After tarrying here about an hour, he return'd for home. - Pleasant, but some cloudy - cool air, a little somokey. -

Chester Mellen. - see p.

MONDAY APRIL 25th. Sow'd about an acre and a half of the N. part of the plow field in the N. meadow, with oats - and a small piece on the S. part with spring-wheat (20 quarts) The latter grain I have tho't I should not try to raise again, having made out so poorly with it 2 or 3 seasons back, but I believe I shall try my fortune in it once more

Oats & spring-wheat)

100 Ira and Hiram both plow'd in the same field in the A. M. to cover the oats and spring-wheat. P. M. Ira plow'd with 3 horses, down E. of the house where we had flax last year (See July 29, 1807 here I spread manure which was drawn there in the forepart of this month. We were oblig'd to suspend labor about 2 hours in the P. M. on account of the rain - A pretty warm cloudy day. - This morning we did not get out to work so early as I could have desir'd - so that business receiv'd a check which had a material influence on the whole day. Hiram was the principal cause of it.

TUESDAY APRIL 26th. As it was a verry rainy day, there was no business of any importance going on. I went to Major Norton's in the A. M. to get a set of harrow-teeth sharpen'd - Went to Smead's office and got yesterday's "World" which announces that, the votes for Governor in Massachusetts have been receiv'd from 38 towns - thus for Sul'n 39801) This rain is a verry timely
for Gore 38113) one; it will forward the sea-
majority) son verry much. - Briars - Cur-
for Sul'n 1688) rant & the Goosbury bush, the Willow, have became green. Grass grows verry fast. Apple trees I see to-day are beginning to leave out. Every thing of the vegetable kind begins to assume a lively appearance. Now such a scene is verry pleasing to the farmer; it encourages him to pursue his business with animation and perseverence. - Vide 17 April 1807 - p. 21st. -

Raining

Fine season. -

100 WEDNESDAY APRIL 27. Drew off those stones that were dug in the S. meadow on the 9th of this month (p.95). They are to build a fence between the orchard & meadow. Chilly and foggy in the morning, but verry fair during the remainder of the day. - N. wind.

THURSDAY APRIL 28th. Work'd pretty hard in the A. M. at spreading dung on the little field next to Parsons's tanyard. Ira plow'd it at the same time, I finish'd my part about an hour before he got thro' with plowing. P. M. Hiram and I plow'd two small yards - the one near the barn - the other W. of Ira's house - the latter we planted with potatoes. - Ira was unwell this P. M. so that he could do no work. He work'd pretty hard yesterday and perhaps took some cold which has bro't on some of his former pains occasion'd by the sickness he underwent last spring. His constitution was so much impair'd at that time, that he will never be able to endure hard labor, or the inclemency of the weather as he could before. - Verry warm and Pleasant.

See June 1807 -20-27

FRIDAY APRIL 29th. Hiram and myself split rails out of a tree which grew in the Sugar orchard - It made about 60 10 feet rails. Having finish'd spliting rails - sun about an hour and a half high we went over to Mr. Wm. Norton's in order to see what was to be done with the fence between him & me. It was finally agreed that it might remain in its present state, till after wheat harvest, when I shall be able to carry rails there, much easier than I can now on account of being oblig'd to waggon across my great plow-field - then I can go round this field thro' Brown's farm and approach Norton's fence without any difficulty. - After mending some fence I return'd home. -

Mrs. Harwood.- Mrs. Harwood has been unable to do anything of any consequence for three weeks, she has rode out everry day and finds much benefit form it. She is better to-day than she has been since she was taken ill. -

101 I walk'd thro' the W. part of my wheatfield to-day, and found that my wheat does not look verry promising. There are large spots of it entirely dead. Here and there is to be seen a lively piece where the snow lay on it. In the N. E. part of the field it looks tolerable well, but on the hill, it has been winter kill'd and sheep-kill'd too (Feb. 3d. p. 85) Ira rode to pownal and got a certificate from the surgeon of the regiment, that he is unable to do military duty. Mr. Parsons came here this evening and bro't a couple of newspapers - dated 26 of April - Lansingburgh Gazeete & Farmer's Register. The former contains some most bitter complaints against the embargo - but after all they can say about it, they have not prov'd that it is not a wise measure. The federalists are teribly tortur'd by it. They say the Farmer, Merchant, and Mec-

101 hanic must be soon begin the streets. - Mr. Parsons & I talk of taking a federal paper between us, so as to see both sides, that we may the better judge. Quite warm w'd N.

SATURDAY APRIL 30th. Tackl'd Hiram off with three horses and set him to harrowing in the S. W. part of the field which is to be planted this spring (see 9th. of this month p.95) The whole of it ought to be harrow'd before it is plow-'d again, but not having time for it, we shall only go over the toughest of it - being about an acre and a half. With regard to what I have done this day, little can be said - However I was not idle. Ira & I fanc'd in a small yard (plow'd day before yesterday) in which some corn was planted - intending to use it while green. Our cornfield this will be too far from the house to go and get it for boiling or roasting. Sent Ira to town just at night with a small jag of hay for Adam Waters - (he return'd with a new plow made by Thomas Lewis, See March 17th & 20th 1807 14 - 15 pages) he had a horse of me to go in a horse cart to carry some timber and other things to his house. This arrangment oblig'd Hiram to turn out pretty early so that he did not harrow so much as I could have wish'd, had it been otherwise. This month has been verry favorable to business, there not being more than three or four days of foul weather since its commencement, but that any kind of out door business might be done without interruption. The forepart of it was cold and dry - so much so, that I believe wheat was considerably injur'd, but since about the 12th it has been verry delightful, every thing seems to come forward with great rapidity. Fruit trees are in such forwardness, that if it should continue warm for about week to come, and then change about and be cold, it is fear'd our fruit would be entirely cut off. Be it as it may our fear or hope will make no difference. My rye I think looks pretty well - People don't think much about the grain, when they talk of a frost, but they say "fruit is going to be kill'd" as if that was all we depended on, not thinking it an injury to have our grain hurt by frost. If our apples do not grow, then we shall not have the trouble of making them into cyder, and will not at the same time, be oblig'd to go begging for business - I always find work enough in the fall without making cyder. - Be it as it may, I am contented. Maples - poplars - and some other trees of the forrest just begin to grow green. Pastures and meadows exhibit a delightful and charming prospect. Everything around us seems to be fill'd with animation. The forrest and orchards resound with the cheering notes of a variety of beautiful birds. The swallows are chirping about our barns.

a new plow bo't of Lewis.

Review of the month

102 Not quite so warm as it has been for 2 or 3 days back, but it was clear and pleasant. - Ira when he went to town, carried a barrel of cyder to Mr. Smead. I shall make some abservations on this season next week. Last year I had not sown any in April and had

plow'd but little, this year I have done all my sowing and plow'd about 15 acres besides - when it is plow'd a 2d time it will be ready to plant - Last year my garden was not made as late as the 13th of May - Now some of the seeds have sprouted almost out of the ground - they will be up in a few days. -

SUNDAY MAY 1st. Our women were convey'd (such as did not go on foot) to church in the same manner that they ~~the~~ were last Sunday. Ira put in a young mare (See Jan. 12) which had never been in the waggon before yesterday. She went off verry well - never had any caper - she may - if us'd right make a valuable creature - Pleasant and warm - wind N. -

MONDAY MAY 2d. Ira and Hiram with two teams plow'd, in the A. M. - P. M. Hiram harrow'd - Ira continu'd plowing - On the field which we began to plow on the 9th of April. -

This day's business as it respects myself is of no great moment. After helping the boys about awhile I had occasion to go a small distance up the W. mount'n having return'd from thence, I assisted father about picking up the apple-tree limbs that were cut from them this spring - & cut them up for fire-wood. P. M. work'd awhile at diging stones in the S. meadow - spent most of this part of the day in the (day) garden. - Mr. Parsons bro't us this day's "World" which contains John Quincy Adams's letter to Mr. Otis part of it was read in the evening - Fine weather - wind S,

TUESDAY MAY 3d. I was verry dilligent about many trifling sorts of work too small to be mention'd - The boys work'd the same as in the P. M. of yesterday - Fair - some smokey - wind South - pretty fresh. The peach and plumb-trees are fill'd with blossoms. - I believe I have fill'd my diary for the last month with particulars enough. Supposing somebody should happen look in to this Book and read what I wrote in several pages in April - he would be apt to say "you have fill'd your pages with nothing of any importance - You drawn out your sentences to an enormous lenght. In attemting to point them off, you have made stammering work indeed of it. - I can't bear to read it." - To such a person I must answer that, what is here written is not indended for critics, but merely for my own private use and amusement. From this book (since its begining in Dec. 1806) may be collected the most important events in my life. -

A ditch finish'd begun in May 1807 See p. 35 27th day.

WEDNESDAY MAY 4th. Made about 7 rods of ditch - connecting two pieces made in September 1807 - p 57th. th. - 45th of that month. -

Made an unsuccessful attempt at night to find our

102 cows. The boys were busy with their teams. Mr. Warner and his lady arriv'd from Hardwicke. A little inaccuracy - In the forenoon Ira work'd for Parsons - drawing down timbe for his bark-house - his horse & one of mine were tackled to the waggon to accomplish the business - his horse perform'd his task verry well. P. M. Ira return'd to his plow. I ought to notice here that I hire Parson's horse to work - he is kept by me.

Vegetation

Vegetation advances verry fast - apple trees are quite green (See p. 100 April 26th) - wind S. - indications of rain. -

103 THURSDAY MAY 5th. I laid wall most of the day - was oblig'd to help the women about making soap. Ira & Hiram plow'd till toward night when the rain beat them away from their work.

Making wall and plowing.

A verry high wind blew from the S. which caused great clouds of dust to be rais'd in the roads. It began to rain moderately about the middle of the P. M.- By degrees it increas'd and became quite settled to a steady rain. - Butternut trees which are commonly pretty late, are now putting out their leaves.

Rainy Butternuts

FRIDAY MAY 6th. No difference in labor from the preceeding day. - The day was verry fair - rather cool in the morning - & Verry temperate - I call'd it a verry fair day - but it was cloudy some wind N. W. - At night it veer'd about in to the S. W. -

SATURDAY MAY 7th. It was such rainy weather that there was but little plowing done. The rain began about 9 in the A. M. and lasted till middle P. M. - clear'd up cold - wind N. W.

Rainy

No. of cattle at this time. See Nov. 10th.1808 page 103

Here follows a list of our creatures Within the preceeding year we have lost one yearling and 8 half grown Lambs See July 19th p.46 - See Dec. 27th 81 page.

(Eight Cows
(Twelve ~~Two-yearolds~~
(Yearlings
(Seven Two yearolds
(Five Calves)See Nov.
(*three Horses)14th. 1807
(Forty Sheep)75p.
(Vide p.28. 6 of May 1807.

Trees are forward.

The forrests in low ground, fruit trees and meadows & pastures are now of a bright verdent colour. Grain thrives well. Our prospests are now flattering - How long it will continue so, is uncertain. I shall speak of my spring-grain when it is a few days older.

SUNDAY MAY 8th. Cold - wind high N. W. - Signs of a frost. Attended Church in the P. M. - Mrs. Warner was seiz'd with a violent pain in her bowels of which she had been complaining about 24 hours Dr. Swift was call'd - who (~~administer'd~~) assister her in some measure - but did not remove her pain immediately.

MONDAY MAY 9th. Having miss'd one of my yearlings I spent the

103
A yearling dies. -

Verry cold.

forenoon in endeavoring to find it, but could not. Father went in the P. M. and found it in the woods, but the creature was dead - and therefore nothing remain'd of any value, but his hide, which is taken off. - The boys finish'd plowing the great field about 3 P. M. Ira plow'd in the field near parsons's. I furrow'd a considerabl piece - had Buel Norton to ride horse. Hiram work'd with John Norton. Verry cold in the morning - wind high in the N. W. - pretty cool during the day - expectations of a frost. -

TUESDAY MAY 10th. Mr. Norton lately came to an agreement with me about our fence. Eight rods of it fall to me, which was laid up this morning. We completed the business of furrowing by having two plows - had Buel Norton & Levi Warren to ride - Hiram harrow'd for Mr. Norton while Levi was working for me. Tolerable pleasant - not much frost last night - it is suppos'd that our fruit will not be injur'd by it. - Some Apple trees begin to put forth their blossoms. - The field in which I have been furrowing, will be describ'd after it is it is planted. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 11th. The forepart of the day pass'd away without being improv'd verry well. Ira went to mill with the waggon. P. M. we planted that small field nearest Parsons's works.

For 7 of May *Two colts - the one three, and the other two yearsold.-

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with potatoes. Adam Waters came on and began planting his part of our field, but about noon he quit on account of bad weather. In the A. M. the wind blew high and chilly from the E. rain'd on the Green Mountain. P. M. it was considerable rainy. -

THURSDAY MAY 12th. We planted with potatoes the hither part of the little field. (See p48th*) and carri'd up a waggon load to plant round the great field - Here we distributed them about the border of the field and planted a few and then return'd home - Weather much like yesterday only warmer. That part of the field which Ira furrow'd I found would not answer, because he had got the rows too near together. I shall be oblig'd to cross furrow it.

*July 29th
May 6th.-

FRIDAY MAY 13th. Ira & Hiram ended the business of planting potatoes. There are two rows which encumpass a field about 196 rods in circumference - and two other rows which stretch across the field from E. to W. dividing that part which is to be let, from what I shall plant myself. The dimensions of the pieces will be notic'd after planting. Cross-furrow'd nearly all of what I

Manner of planting potatoes

take to myself - and planted a few hills of corn. Only half a potatoes has been planted in a hill, except a few. Hitherto we have found it necessary to fodder our cattle twice a day - letting them run in one pasture only now we have divided the young cattle ~~from~~ and cows - giving to the latter a fresh pasture. Our yearlings run in the woods. My cattle, sheep and horses, have winter'd out well. The only misfortune which has happen'd in this line is, the loss of an old mare and a yearling, but that was owing to some disease, rather than want of fodder. We have planted about 36 bushels of potatoes this season. -

Observations on his cattle

Thirty-six bushels potates.-

Weather dull and muggy - wind S. - air pretty still.

SATURDAY MAY 14th. Parsons's hir'd man and apprentices planted his part of the field in the forenoon. Adam & his apprentices finish'd his, a little afternoon. In the A. M. I had only my father and boys planting in my division of the field, but in the P. M. Adam & his hands and John Norton came on and assisted me till the rain drove us out of the field. Had it not been for this, we should have easily finish'd the piece. Perhaps the sun was two hours high when we quit work. We work'd some time notwithstanding the rain. - Cloudy and rather chilly in the A. M. P. M. a cold moderate rain succeeded wind N. Orchards now exhibit a pretty appearance, being almost white with blossoms.

SUNDAY MAY 15th. Spent the day at home. Cold, damp weather wind N.

MONDAY MAY 16th. Ended the business of planting corn. I have now a large handsome field of rather more than 14 acres planted with corn. Neighbor Parsons has taken nearly 2 acres and Waters about 4 of it, and are to have half the crop. I prepar'd the ground and found seed and take all the stalks.

Planting corn completed.- Parsons & Waters take ground 105 to plant.

Took in Parsons's horse to pasture

This cornfield is 50 rods from N. to S. and 48 from E. to W. Bounded on the N. by a part of the Fay farm and our wheat-field (Sept. 18th p. 60) W. by a pasture. S. by capt. Norton's farm. E. by a part of his orchard and Wm. Norton's possessions. It is entirely clear of trees except one apple tree and is not stoney. In the S. W. part, it will be bad hoeing at first going over, but it is by far the best soil. The N. W. part of the field is the mellowest hoeing. Some cloudy - cool - wind N. W. -

Situation of the corn field in 1808.-

MONDAY - TUESDAY MAY 17th. We were confin'd to the garden & a small yard, (intended for cucumbers) The poll-beans were planted & poll'd - and other sorts of pulse were put in to the ground. Ira plow'd some of Parsons's in the afternoon. A few cucumbers were planted. The pre-

Beans planted & poll'd.-

cucumbers

105 ceding night was cold and produc'd a white frost - Clear and pleasant - wind N. W. Mr. Joshua Gates came to my house this evening and wish'd to get some money. I owe him about 63 dollars. At this time I could pay him none.

Frosty

Gates calls for money.

WEDNESDAY MAY 18th. Laid up 27 rods of fence, between the rye and that pasture immediately S. of Ira's house (See p. 60, Sept. 18th.) The boys drew the rails from the fence which separated the W. part of the wheatfield from the S. meadow - The fence on the N. and W. sides of this pasture was repair'd, it being intended for a calf pasture. At the last town meeting I was appointed surveyor of the S. Dct. Having been duly qualified I rode thro' my district, near the close of the day, and notified the men to work on Monday & Tuesday next.- Considerable frost last night, verry cold this morning - smokey air pleasant - Apple trees are in the highest state of beauty in thin blossoms. -

Fencing

Sth. district warned to work on the highway.

THURSDAY MAY 19th. I added a few feet more to that wall which was begun on the 5th., Two of Parsons's apprentices (James Wilcox and Nathaniel Locke) help'd us from about 11 in the A. M. till night. Their business was drawing stone. I think they work'd verry well - Ira and Hiram work'd with them. My father labor'd hard to-day. He bro't 27 bushels potatoes (Hiram help'd him) out of his cellar and wash'd them. Pleasant and warm wind S.

Walling.- Parsons's boys work for me.-

It is some days since I notic'd my winter grain. I think it now looks quite promising. The wheat has alter'd much since the 29 (of April, (top of p. 101) then I did not feel much encourag'd about it, but now it seems to flurish and grow as well as any grain on the farm.

Winter grain.-

FRIDAY MAY 20th. I must confess my work at night did not, from the appearance it made, reward me for my labor. However Hiram and I have been verry dilligent. A ditch about 35 feet in length was made to turn the course of the brook out of the orchard in the meadow on the S. side of the wall. I laid up some wall and carri'd in those potatoes that my father wash'd yesterday. Laying wall is a sort of (bo) business which I like verry well, but not being much skill'd in it, makes it much slower getting along with it, than it would be if I had been (and) an old workman at the business. Ira and Parsons with their wifes and two others went with my waggon and horses to Hoosack falls - Wind blew up strong from the S. cloudy - midling warm and smokey.-

Ira & Parsons go to Hoosick-falls.-

106 SATURDAY MAY 21st. Little could be done in the forenoon at the wall because Ira had not arriv'd from Hoosack. Hiram & I stuck pumpkin seeds in the cornfield till about 11 O'clock A. M. - went to Capt. Norton's and talk'd

106
Walling-
P. M.

with him and neighbor Jewett awhile - It was about noon when I came home. Ira had been here about an hour. He and myself work'd at the wall in the P. M. - Hiram was sent to Major Norton's to get some work done - from whence he arriv'd about 4 O'clock - At night the boys went up to the clear'd land W. of the Sugar orchard and procur'd a backstone for my father's fire place. The wall which I have lately built, is 10 rods in length - half its height is posts and rails - and separates the S. division of our orchard from the S. meadow - The strength of this piece of fence far exceeds its beauty - and that I am not asham'd of. I am not one of those who would sacrifice utility for gaity and superfluity. I am for having things snug and substantial. - The wind was pretty high in the S. cloudy - indications of rain.

News-papers

To-day Hiram bro't home several Aurora papers. The most important article which they contain is, an Enquiery into the causes and consequences &c of the orders in council of 11 Nov. -

SUNDAY MAY 22d.

During a considerable part of last night - and a great part of the A. M. it rain'd. It held up awhile in the P. M. but just at night it came on again quite fast - the air quite chilly wind in the N.

MONDAY MAY 23d.

Highway work.-

The district, of which I am the surveyor, generally turn'd out and fulfil'd their obligations to the public as well as could reasonably be expected from men who love to hear and tell stories, and boys who had much rather stand still, th than work. I should not wish to apply this character to my district only, for it is a general characteristic of every highway district in this country. There was a good deal of work done to-day on a verry bad piece of road, beginning at McElsheron's and running down to the little brook north of Mr. Elijah Fay's. We have only half, or perhaps rather more than half finish'd it. Every one who is acquainted with the main road on this ~~reed~~ district agrees with me that it is the worst piece throut the whole of it. - More tomorrow - A cold morning - cool day the evening made a fire feel verry cumfortable - Cloudy - wind N..

TUESDAY MAY 24th.

Some small events happen'd yesterday which I shall relate today. Ira was sent over to Gen'l. Safford's to get a scraper. It being a matter of uncertainty whether he would be fortunate enough to find one, Mr. Wm. Norton & Mr. Elijah Fay jun'r. (having the iron part which had belong'd to an old one) were immediately employ'd in making one. However, before they had completed their work, Ira came back with the object of his errand; So that, most of the time, we have had two scrapers to work with. That which Fay and Norton made is a verry good one. The men who made

106 it, are the most ingenuous of any in our neighbor-
hood.- Nearly the same number were out again to-day
that we had yesterday. Having completed the job which
was begun yesterday by 2 in the P. M. we proceeded to
the N. and mended the hill S. of blue point, and be-
107 gun to repair that S. of tanbroak, but night put a
stop to the work before it could be finish'd. Wind
blew up cold from the S. and the atmosphere was fill'd
with thick clouds which threaten'd us with rain. Cold
weather for this season. People are uneasy about
fruit & corn. & I will here insert a copy of my instru-
ctions from the Selectmen.

"To Benj'n Harwood Surveyor of highways - greeting.
"You are hereby directed to warn all the men in your
"district to work out their rates as assesd below, two
"thirds of the work to be done between the first day
" of May next to the first of July following at the
"rate of 75 cents per day & the remainder one third
"to be work'd between the first day of September and
"the first day of Nov'r next at the rate of 50 cents
"pr.day - on the following road - beginning at the
"house of widow Hinman in Bennington thence running
"South on the main road to Pownal line. - Also the
"cross road from Frederick Jewett's to the other road
"by Cady's, & to Willard Greene's & the road to the
"widow Carpenter's. And if any in your district are
"left out, please to add them at least one day at the
"rate of 50 cents pr day.

Sign'd by (Moses Robinson jun'r)
(Joseph Hinsdill)
(Joseph Wadsworth)
Selectmen

Bennington 25th. April 1808

It's agreed by those that have not work'd out their tour on the road to come again (tomorrow if good weather) and do somthing more toward making it more passable. They did verry well to-day. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 25th. It was so rainy that no work could be done on the road or farm - so I contented myself without pursuing any business of importance. Mr. Elijah Smedly was oblig'd to take shelter here from the rain (being on a short journey to the northward) several hours. I had considerable conversation with him upon different subjects - among others the embargo was mention'd. He did not express his opinion verry explicitly about it. However he seems to think it best to be peacable until the law is repeal'd. Mr. Smedly does not enquire into the state of political affairs much. He tells me that he has not taken a news-paper these two years - being so full of lies that he can put no dependence on them. I believe my cousin to be a verry honest, uphight man, but in this opinion I can never agree with him. If a particular class of men could succeed in making it general among the people, they

Mr. Elijah Smedly - conversation with him.

107 would accomplish that which they now know to be impossible. If newspapers do lie, I do not want to be oblig'd to run (to run) to my neighbor to get their contents 2d or third handed. Every man that feels himself interested in the cause of liberty, will take a newspaper, and believe what he pleases and let the rest go. We are too negligent about the constitution of the United States. I do not own it myself, nor I don't think any of my neighbors do. It seems to be a verry scarse book among us - when in fact, it ought to be in every family. - A great quantity of rain has fallen to-day. It came in showers - one after another all day. The wind was verry high in the morning - chilly - however it grew warmer toward the close of the day. -

108 THURSDAY MAY 26th. Such as had previously agreed to come on, did accordingly about 9 in the morning. That small hill S. of Brown's was repair'd - Moving to the S. we finish'd what had been left undone on (Wednes) Tuesday. The road is not made so good as it ought to be, by a great deal, because there is not work enough in the district to do it - only the worst places are repair'd - the rest must go without. A good deed was perform'd this P. M. A certain rock, which laid verry much in the way on the hill S. of Parsons's was taken out, by the exertions of Mr. Wm. Norton & Mr. Elijah Fay jun'r. They had iron wedges and a yoke of oxen to do it with. At night I made an account of what each man had done, which aded together makes 50 24 dollars and 20 65 cents. The whole amount of the highway tax for this District is 65 dollars and one cent.

Highway repairing resum'd

A large rock taken out by Norton & Fay.-

Work-how much on this Dt.

Ira, this morning, carri'd home that scraper which was borrow'd last monday. - The brooks and riverlets were rais'd considerably by the late rain. The last storm, contrary to what has commonly been the case this spring, clear'd off warm, We hope now to be blessed with some pleasant weather. Cloudy - wind N. The method we have taken to make our road is the one common to our country - plowing & scraping and throwing out the stones, of which many still remain, raising the middel so as to make it quite conven

Season

Method us'd in working the road.

In the discharge of my duty as Surveyor, I have met with no difficulty, except in one or two trifling instances. Esquire Jewett who lives off from the main, on that which leads S., from the cross road leading to Cady lane, to the old house of Willard Greene, wish'd to put the whole of his rate on to that road. He had work'd his road so as to render it quite tolerable, but he wanted to cart off a considerable quantity of stones on his "Cushman farm" into the deep gullies which were in the road. I was surpris'd to find so little public spirit in the old gentlemen. His way of mending a road I did not like, and believing the main road requir'd all the work that could be put upon it. I insisted up his sending on a hand, which he accordingly did. With widdow Billing I could come upon no proper arrangment. She insisted that she had

Esquire Jewett & Mr. Billing.-

108 formerly done so much on the road more than her rate, and the taking it from her - exempted her from doing any work on the highway. Mr. Warner is now at our house. He has been for some time with Mrs. Warner at Gov. Robinson's where she was (~~she~~) verry unwell, but is now recovering her health again.

FRIDAY MAY 27th. We work'd in the garden, which I found really suffer'd for want of better care. The weeds had grown up so as to prevent the young plants from growing at all. This day's work made a material difference in its appearance at night to what it was in the morning.

Garden.

Poor seeds 109

(o) Our garden-seeds this spring seem not to have been verry good there being but few of the Onions, beets or carrots that have come up and none of the Parsnips. A little before night I rode up to widow Carpenter's to know what highway-work they had done. Here I found three young men who were not on the list handed me by the selectmen - viz Austin Demic, Horton and a Mr. Danils whose names are add to the bill. When on my return home I assisted at a small raising of Capt. Norton's - About dark I reach'd home. Pleasant and tolerable warm - wind S. At night some signs of rain were perceptable. The season is favorable to grass and grain. At the end of the month I shall make some observations on vegetation. - In a small yard planted on the last of April the corn is coming up. -

Young men at Mrs. Carpenter's.

Corn coming up.

Oxen and horses are allow'd 50 cents each per day - cart 20 cents and plow 20 cents. Myself, Ira and Hiram - span of horses & plow have been employ'd on the road three days. My (tot) tax on the highway Bill is $7.23 - and the amount of my labor is $8.65, so that there's a little due to me now.

My road tax. -

SATURDAY MAY 28th. My father, knowing that it was intended to wash sheep to-day, was verry active in making preparations for that purpose. We parted the lambs from their dams ready for a march, but a shower of rain coming up, which lasted some time, oblig'd us to postpone the business till P. M. In the mean time I attended a funeral at Mr. Sullen's - occ(tion's)sion'd by the death an infant. - After dinner, I join'd my flock with Capt. Norton's (as was previously agreed upon) and went down to Gen'l. Safford's birdge, where they were wash'd being in number about 65. Capt. Norton, Ira & the little boys were the catchers. Myself, Mr. Duncan, young John Norton and Hiram went into the water. We had no material difficulty thro' the whole job. Capt. M. Robinson happen'd there just as we came out of the water, he drank with us and invited Norton to "come and hear Dr. Fay" preach to morrow" and "notify his neighbors also to attend". He explain'd himself concerning his name, "Dr. Fay" being a nickname he had given him, from his bearing some resemblance to the old Doctor. I will not trouble myself about writing my opinion of this little action - Men hear and see many times with-

Wash sheep

Capt. M. Robinson

109 out saying anything. - To know a little about the plague we had last year when we wash'd sheep - See page 37 June 3d. - Ira went to the N. part of the town at night. After the rain which I have mention'd, it continu'd cloudy with a chilly breeze from S. E. -

SUNDAY MAY 29th. Every man in this country is allow'd to think and speak for himself. I may say I like or dislike a minister of the gospel as well as a civil minister. I went to meeting and heard the new preacher, recommended so highly by Capt. Moses, yesterday. His text was the 13th verse of the third chapter in John. What the old gentleman had to say, was verry good, but I think I have heard other preachers who could do as well. I tho't he did resemble Dr. Fay in some respects. The name of this man is Howe. Rainy and cloudy - wind S. in the morning - rather chilly - wind N. W. at night. - Ground full of water. -

Mr. Howe the preacher)

110

MONDAY MAY 30th. Repairing fences was employment till about three in the P. M., when I left Hiram & his grandfather heaping stones on that part of the S. meadow which was seeded down last spring. (see p. 30th May 12th) Ira made a scarecrow for the cornfield. Mr. David Robinson call'd here to-day, and made an agreement with me, about that piece of land which I spoke of at page 98th. I think his price for it is verry generous for, on his puting the question to me - how much it was worth? I answer'd - 25 dollars - but contrary to my expectations, he asked me only eight. He is to make me out a deed in a few days. - The fences on this farm are going to ruin quite fast, being compos'd of redoak rails chiefly, of many years standing. Every cent that can be spar'd ought to be laid out in fencing the farm and repairing the buildings on it. Now buildings are wanted, but we must try to keep the old ones from falling down before we attempt to make any additions to them. Sometimes when I get thinking over my affairs I almost lose my patience - Enough now - my time must not be spent in writing my complaints. -

D.Robinson agrees on a price for a certain piece of land. see page 98.

Tho'ts on the fencing of the farm and building

This P. M. I attended a meeting of the congregational society. The question to be tried was, whether we should support our present minister or not? It was carried in the affirmative. There was some debate on the subject, which was conducted with candor and coolness, except in some instances, where party feelings could not be suppressed. -

Congregational society

Judge Robinson intimated that, should Mr. Marsh be turn'd away thro' the influence of his enemies, he was (of the) of opinion that, another minister could not be had here, he meant to be honest about it, and said he should vote against settling any other man. He appears to be a pretty warm advocate for Mr. Marsh.- I was on the affirmative. -

Cloudy - wind W. Corn in the field is just coming

110
Cornfield

out the ground and the crows have begun to pull it up. Parsons and Waters have fix'd up scarecrows in their part of the field and we have also rais'd one in our part. If these fail, we have set a trap for them - should that prove successful, it will be an effectual security against their depredations. One dead crow will guard a great field. -

TUESDAY MAY 31st.

Waters's wood drawn - 2 loads 111

Ira and Hiram were employ'd in getting down wood with the sled from Streets lot to the flat land, from whence it was carri'd in a waggon to Waters's - for whom the work was done. I pil'd stones in the meadow in the A. M. - P. M. - put in a few rails into the wall. - The weather not being fair, hinder'd me about my labor for sometime. It was rather cloudy & cool in the forepart of the day - soon after 12 a shower came out of the N. with considerable violence - and for the first time in the month it thunder'd, but not verry heavy.

Gov. Robinson Father and Mr. Warner try their skill at mowing.

Late in the P. M. Gov'r. Robinson & his lady came here on a visit. The old gentleman felt pretty smart talk'd upon religion and read the Bible most of the time while he was here. I am requested to mention one circumstance which occur'd this P. M., tho' not of more importance than many others mention'd in this Journal. - My father commonly mows his door-yard about this time, It happen'd that he wanted to mow it today. So himself, Gov'r Robinson and Mr. Warner each took a turn at mowing - to know who could cut his grass handsomest. - The matter being left to themselves - each decided in his own favor. - My father will be 73 years of age in July next - Gov'r Robinson is about 69 - and Mr. Warner 67. -

Mr. Noah Dodge (Jonas's father-in-law) is now here. - Says all his people are well. -

Review of the month

I will now attempt to take a (res) retrospect of this month. Until the 5th. the weather continu'd warm and pleasant which caus'd vegetation to be verry forward, insomuch that many fear'd a late frost might do great injury to fruit & grain. Since that period a series of cold wet weather succeeded, with but little interruption, and produc'd a material change in the progress of vegetation. Trees, fruit, grain & plants are now hardly so forward as is usual at this season. Contrary to my expectations my winter wheat & rye look pretty well. Spring grain is too small to say much of it - Corn is just coming out of the ground. It looks poor, but may change for the better if good weather comes on. - In this month labor amongst farmers is the lightest of any time in the whole year. - We now depart from May & begin the growing month of June. -

Grain looks well.

Grass is pretty good. I believe such weather as we have had in this month suits it best of any. Tho' there was a frost so late as the 17th. it is not suppos'd to have produc'd anything verry hurtful to vegetation. It is something singular that there should

111 have been so little thunder during this month.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 1st. I was at a loss to know what to do, this morning. I knew I had work enough, but could not tell what wanted doing most. I recollected that the fence on the N. & W. sides of the wanted fixing sheep-pasture wanted fixing and went & repair'd it, the rest of the day was spent in the garden. I find our beans just begin to come up. Cold morning - A raw N. W. wind continu'd blowing all day. -

Mr. Stark and his lady came here at night. - Ira was taken unwell so as not to be able to work. -

THRUSDAY JUNE 2d. Mr. Stark tarried here last night and immediately after breakfast rode off to Pownal where there is an association of baptist ministers. Mrs. Harwood & myself soon follow'd. Here we heard 3 excellent sermons - Spent night with Mr. Stark at his house in Pownal. Mr. Warner this morning set off for Hardwicke. Fair weather - wind N. W.

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FRIDAY JUNE 3d. Rode from Pownal and reach'd home about 8 in the morning. As soon as I could get rig'd for the business I went to shearing sheep. My father, Mr. Dodge, and Ira were employ'd about the same work. We got thro' with it about noon. -

Sheep are shear'd

Not a great deal was done in the P. M. - hoed a yard of potatoes - cut some crotches for a waggon - shelter - a load of rails was bro't home. Good weather - wind Northwardly. -

SATURDAY JUNE 4th. Work'd for Capt. Norton, at spliting pine wood for his ware-kiln. Mr. Norton, this P. M., was entertain'd with verry inscipid company. Two drunken vagabonds the one from the S. and the other from the N. call'd at his house, and fill'd themselves with cyder. Such objects show how men sink themselves beneath the dignity of beasts by yielding to some ignoble --- passion. It is my opinion that some public place of confinement ought to be provided for such worthless people, and then we should be rid of their company and confer our charity on those that merrit it more. - The weather fair & pleasant.

Split wood for Norton

Two vagabonds spoken of See Jan'y - Feb.7,1807

SUNDAY JUNE 5th. Went to meeting and heard Mr. Marsh preach. I tho't he was rather lengthy. Weather continu'd Fair.

MONDAY JUNE 6th. Our business call'd us over to Brown & Turner's saw-mill, where we stuck up about 2100 feetof boards, being part of the debt which Almon Ovait owes me for a certain mare which I sold to him on the 8th of last Dec. - The note specifies that I am to have

Ovait's boards. - see Dec.8th 1807.-

112 good merchantable white pine boards, but those I have taken to-day fall far below that description. The note was out on the first of this month, so that I could have had them all deliver'd to me at this time, but I have refus'd to take any more till he gets better ones saw'd. We return'd home with a small load of boards. Whole No of ft. receiv'd of Ovait is 2410, which is endors'd on the Note. See Dec. 8th. p. 78. It was about 3 in the P. M. when we reach'd home, I felt considerable fatigu'd the place where we had been working being verry warm on account of the quantity of timber lying about there. Spent the remainder of the P. M. in the garden - setting cabbage plants and pulling out weeds.

Cabbages

Really a warm day - little smokey - A small shower just at night came up from N. W. which was attended with thunder. Verry growing season. -

TUESDAY JUNE 7th. Was training day, but I did not discontinue my work on that account. It was a good day to transplant, the ground being render'd soft by the rain. Ira and I transplanted some cabbages and a considerable number of beets - and hoed out the garden in the best manner. Hiram was gone to training. By him I receiv'd a pamphlet containing John Q. Adams's letter. Verry warm in the A. M. - P. M. had two or three smart showers with some thunder. Cool at night. -

Training

work in the garden

113 WEDNESDAY JUNE 8th. Work'd for Wm. Norton at the same kind of business that I mention on Saturday. Ira gave out sick at noon myself & son stuck to the work till night. This day's work is to paid for in hoing. Saw a tin-peddler from the lower part of Connecticut, not far from N. Haven - who says grain looks pretty poorly in that part of the country. Pleasant & cool wind N. W.

Work for Wm. Norton

Grain in Connecticut. -

THURSDAY JUNE 9th. Began to hoe, tho the corn was pretty small. It kept my son and myself verry busy to go bouts across the field from E. to W. Little Samuel Robinson came here this evening to stay here a few days to ride (fr) horse amongst corn. Good day for business - (Si) Signs of rain - rather dim sky, wind S. -

Hoeing

Ira unwell. -

Ira took a puke, which it is hoped will restore him his health.

FRIDAY JUNE 10th. Business like what was done yesterday, till noon. During the forenoon felt quite unwell - was oblig'd to quit the field before noon. P. M. myself & Hiram went to assist at the raising of Mr. Loomis's barn - under the direction of Mr. Abel. It was late in the P. M. when we got ready to raise, so that there was not time to do more than to raise the body of the frame. The timber in it is amazing heavy. - Its length is 45½ - breadth 30 feet. No want of hands. - Warm

Mr. Loomis's barn rais'd. -

113 smokey - wind S. In the P. M. I recover'd from my (for) illness considerably - so as be tolerable well. -

SATURDAY JUNE 11th. Work similar to that of yesterday. Ira was able to work , and Isaac Godfrey came in the service of Wm. Norton & work'd for what was done on Wednesday-day & a half yet due. About the middle of the P. M. I rode away to Hoosickfalls. Here I tarried during the night. Fair - wind S. -

Isaac Godfrey.-

Go out to Hoosick

SUNDAY JUNE 12th. Our intention was, besides making a visit at Mr. Stone's, to go to meeting there, but the weather prov'd so rainy that we could not venture (go) out. - Mrs. Harwood, Mrs. Duncan and myself reach'd home about sun-down. Their grain in that part of the country, especially rye, looks verry promising. Verry rainny a great part of the night & all the forepart of the day. - Continu'd cloudy & grew cool till night.-

MONDAY JUNE 13th. Again we enter'd our stubern field to beat down the grass and weeds which suppress the growth of the young and tender corn-plant. It was with some difficulty that we hoed 4 rows apiece - being in length 47 rods. More hoeing would have been done had it not been for being oblig'd to poke 3 of our young cattle, on account of their being unruly. Waters, who began his hoeing on Friday, finish'd it time enought to help me a little, just at night. -

Parsons hoes his field out in 1 day -see p.104 at bottom See the last article of June 25th.

Parsons bro't on his apprentices and hir'd man and (hoi) hoed out his field, in a hurry. But I rather think it won't, after such a miserable hoeing, grow in a hurry. Parsons was out of the field, except awhile in the A. M. When I was coming out of the field, he and his brother Seth, who had just return'd from looking timber on the W. mountain, came that way, and view'd his boys' work - how he likes it I cannot say, because he went a different route home. I think they ought to do it over again tomorrow - Warm - cloudy - rather damp in the evening - wind N. E. in A. M. - P. M. S. - My winter wheat exhibits a most flattering appearance. Grass in the meadows does not flourish verry (well) much Spring grain looks tolerably well. -

Grain. -

114 TUESDAY JUNE 13th. Our hoeing grows better, but is still verry bad, however we work'd off 15 rows, which is 2 more than we hoed yesterday. My young nephew, who came here on Saturday*, had to leave me, & go home, his father being unable to spare him any longer. He is a verry good boy to ride horse and hoe corn - and in other respects nowise inferior to other boys of his age. He will be nine years of age the fifth of next month. Such a boy would be of much service to

me, 'till I finish this job of hoeing. Father has been busy about planting beans in (c) vacant places in the cornfield. He censures Parsons's hoing highly, as might naturly be expected. Wind S. - Cloudy and likely for rain in the A. M. but became fair in the P. M.-

Parsons, I find, is convinc'd that his corn was badly hoed, and says it shall be soon corrected.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15th. So much like yesterday that (at) to mention my business, would be a needless repetition.

Remarks on cattle Beauty of Mt. Anthony

Rather cloudy in the A. M. P. M. fair - wind S.

There is no time in the year when cattle appear more beautiful, than at the present. Pasturing is excellent. -

Nothing about us seems more pleasant at this time than a view of mount Anthony, every tree from its base to its summit being compleatly cover'd with green leaves.

THURSDAY JUNE 16th. For want of a boy to ride, I was oblig'd to put lines on to the horse in order to plow. This perplex'd me some, but I made out verry well, tho' a boy would have been verry acceptable. We were all verry tired at night. Pretty warm and some signs of rain-win South. -

FRIDAY JUNE 17th. My work was forwarded considerably by having Isaac Godfrey, Girdon Griswold and Nathaniel Locke the 2 last are Parsons's apprentices to hoe for me. Griswold I find is rather slack fellow about work. If he had not been watch'd pretty closely, his corn would have been badly hoed. The youngest apprentice is a smart active boy and striv'd as much as he could to keep up, and do his work well too. Should it be fair tomorrow, our intention is, to finish hoeing for this time.

Lowery weather - some rainy in the P. M. - wind South. -

My pasturing is rarely better than it is at present, particularly for horses. They are allow'd to go in 2 pastures, but not at the same time. - More grass is yielded by these pastures than any part of the farm of the same extent, because they have been lately laid down - Tracy-field - & the young orchard with the field adjoining it on the N. Here I rais'd spring-wheat last season. See P. 53 Aug. 13th. - Wheat begins to head out. - fine growing season.

SATURDAY JUNE 18th. Being verry rainy we could only do a little in the garden between showers. My father transplanted some of his tobacco. Other trifling jobs wer executed.

No of years since Father came to this town

It is forty seven years this day, since my father bro't his family to this town, being one of the first settlers. of the company that bro't their families in to this place at that time Col'n Sam'l Robinson and my

114 father are the only persons remaining. The others have died off and remov'd to other places.

The farm on which we now reside is the same which the old gentlemen first pitch'd upon, having never chang'd his residence since that period. Verry rainy - high N. E. wind in the moring - chilly at night - A N. E. storm. -

*Thursday

115 SUNDAY JUNE 19th. Mr. Marsh preach'd in the forenoon from a text in the second book of Chronicles, 13th chap. 12th verse. His discourse was peculiarily adopted to the times. He bro't in to view the terrible calamity which the Jews inflicted upon themselves by being separated into two king-doms, under Jeroboam and Abijah, and applied to our present case. I do not recollect his P. M. text. -

The substance of Mr.Marsh's sermon in the A. M.

Cloudy - chilly E. wind ceas'd raining in the night.

MONDAY JUNE 20th. Isaac Godfrey work'd here to-day, and paid up what Wm. Norton ow'd me for spliting wood, & a half a day (of) over. Completed hoeing a field of 8 acres of corn, which looks well in general, but in some places it must be plaster'd on account of the soil being (~~being~~) poor in those places. We were overshaddow'd with clouds which seem'd to threaten us with rain - but had none. wind South West. -

Godfrey pays up work ow'd by Wm. Norton. Finish hoeing 1st time.

TUESDAY JUNE 21st. Hoed out, or rather plow'd out our potatoes - the work being done chiefly with the plow, which left little to be done with the hoe. - Took in Isaac Godfrey horse to pasture. Parsons has hir'd pasturing of me for his horse ever since the 16th of May - and for his cows ever since the 23d. About the 30th of that month I beganto keep Waterman's horse, and continu'd pasturing him until the 17th of the present month - My charges are 25 cents a week. -

Godfrey's horse -Watermans price for pasturing.-

In the A. M. damp cloudy weather - wind S. - P. M. clear wind N. W. - Evening warm and damp. -

WEDNESDAY JUNE 22d. In the forenoon I plaster'd my corn. - Put on about a teaspoonful to a hill - had not enough do the whole field - there being about 3 acres of the richest part left undone. P. M. Work'd in the garden and did some smaller jobs, which are uneecessary to be mention'd here. Isaac Godfrey work'd here in the A. M. Verry cloudy during the A. M. Sun came out verry hot in the middle of the day and continu'd pretty warm till it went down. About 9 in the evening - a thunder shower pass'd over us but produc'd no great quantity of rain - some pretty heavy peels of thunder. How pleasant the season is now, who can but admire it,

Plaister the corn -I.Godfred See July 13 p123. -

The season

115 Reflections) on man.- but alas! how soon it passes away - But a little while, and these luxurient vegetables shrink into the earth! Is it not a lesson for man - Does he not, in a striking degree, resemble a plant. After flurishing for a time - some (~~time~~) accident, or the frost of old age cuts him down. Twelve months - this day since the affair of Chesapeake. See p. 45 July 15th. -

Begin to plow for wheat - 7th July p. 120.

THURSDAY JUNE 23d. When a new piece of work is begun, especially with the team, it consumes much of the forepart of the day, in getting things in readiness. This was the case to-day about beginning to plow - some of our tackling was in one place and some in another. However with some trouble we put a team of 3 horses on to the plow, and did a moderate days-work in the N. part of the sheep pasture. Of the dimensions of this field, I shall speak in the next page. -

116 Warm and cloudy - wind S. W. Apprehensions of rain in the P. M. it actually sprinkl'd a few drops, but was of little consequence - distant thunder. -

FRIDAY JUNE 24th. Labour continu'd the same as it was yesterday. Ira was driver till noon. In the P. M. Hiram took them. Ira mow'd daizies. Good weather.

Situation of the wheat field of 1808-9 see p. - 186.

Some talk about plowing the W. side of the N. meadow.

SATURDAY JUNE 25th. The pasture which I am now plowing for wheat, is verry rough and uneven, more so than any other section of the farm which we pretend to plow. It comprehends 462 rods of the N. W. corner of the farm, the S. E. border faces the N. W. side of the N. meadow, which is now cover'd with flax and oats. The whole will be converted into one field, including 4 acres of the W. side of the meadow, and be sow'd with wheat making in all about 11 acres. - The last mention'd piece of meadow has been, until a few years past, kept under continual cultivation either in producing english grain or corn for some years. At the time it was laid down for mowing, it was seeded with clover. We have had tolerable crops from it ever since, but this year it looks poorly, having been kill'd much during winter - and is runinng up to weeds and other sorts of grass. This, with other reasons, has determin'd me to mow it early and plow - and sow it with wheat. Those who are acquainted with the piece, will reecollect that a range of steep rocks extending the whole length of it on the W. side, which is cover'd with trees, gives it a singular and pretty appearance - S. p. 108 - July 5th. -

My work differ'd not from what it was yesterday. Ira ho'd for Parsons - sun about an hour high - went to Hill's carding machine. - Pleasant - wind N. W. -

Parsons ho'd his corn to-day, to amend what he did on the 13th. Ira says it is now done pretty well.-

SUNDAY JUNE 26th. Went to Church, but heard verry little of

116 Mr. Marsh's discourse, being verry dull and sleepy.-

Finish plowing the first field intended for wheat. see July 5th.

MONDAY JUNE 27th. Finish'd plowing the ground mention on Saturday, having spent rather more than 3 days about it. Ira mow'd daizy in the orchard. -

Pretty warm weather - and seem'd to threaten with a shower at night, but the clouds passed away without any - - wind S. -

Second hoeing begun. Prentice works here.

TUESDAY JUNE 28th. After being hinder'd a considerable time, we began hoeing our corn a second time, but did not do a first-rate day's work. Weather warm and in many respects like what it has been for a 2 or 3 days. -

Mr. Prentice has been putting in a new axaltree into my new waggon. -

WEDNESDAY 29th. This morning I had some time to spend in righting up "The milk-roon". Prentice did a half day's work on this building. At noon I paid him for his labor in pork and cheese. His price was 9 shillings. Our work continu'd the same as it was yesterday. Pleasant, but pretty dry and warm. -

Godfrey & Parsons's apprentices

THURSDAY JUNE 30th. The same business renew'd with an addition of three hands - viz. I. Godfrey, J. Wilcox & N. Lock (latter 2 Parsons's apprentices). Our work went on according to our help.

After varioius changes during the day, we had a considerable shower about sundown. Much thundr in the day time as well as during the night and some of it pretty heavy. -

117 I never knew a much better season for the growth of every kind of grain and grass, than during the last thirty days. We have had much rain, but it was distributed in such a manner as not to fill the ground so as to become too wet. Pasturing never was better. see June 17th. Every thing appears pleasant. Corn begins to stretch upwards with amazing rapidity. Apples are large enough to be seen at some distance from the tree. Our garden is im a flourishing state. I cannot say as it has been uncommonly warm, and at no time verry cool. - Chief business - plowing and hoeing. -

Observations on the season during the present month.

Parsons's boys. -

FRIDAY JULY 1st. Except Godfrey I had the same hands that were here yesterday. When we left the field at night it was concluded that the field might be hoed out by tomorrow noon. A verry warm day - Thunder'd a good deal at night - wind S. -

SATURDAY JULY 2d. We finish'd hoeing the 2d. time pretty early at night - and had only James Wilcox beside our

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2d hoeing done - had only 1 of Parsons's boys.

own help neither. I never make (it) a practice of hoeing potatoes more than twice therefore I shall not be oblig'd to hoe these again.

Waterman's horse taken in to pasture

With respect to pasturing I have been quite negligent about keeping an account of it. Last Tuesday I took in a mare to pasture for Mr. Waterman, which I had kept for Mr. Seth Parsons a fortnight and 2 days before - ending on that day - for my price See June 21st. Where I spoke more particularly of the subject.-

Much cooler than yesterday - and cloudy - wind N. W. -

SUNDAY JULY 3d.

Mr. Marsh's serman notic'd.

Mr. Marsh took his text in the A. M. at the 22d Chap. Gen. 1st & 2 verses. He undertook to prove that a striking analogy existed between Isaac the son of Abraham - and our Saviour. I think he accomplish'd his purpose quite well. It being Sacrament-day I did not notice what he had to say in the P. M. so as to be able to give a verry clear idea of the subject matter in hand. Our singing was most excellent. -

Good singing. -

The weather was damp, cloudy, & some rainy - rather cool wind Eastwardly. -

Col'n Fay's silk-worns

At noon I went to Col'n Fay's and for the first time in my life saw silk-worms - He keeps a considerable number of them this season. They are computed at 12 thousand. -

MONDAY JULY 4th.

Celebration of independence. -

A cloudy day indeed! - both the natural and political atmospheres - being much darken'd. However I hope our national affairs may be bro't out of the dangers which now threaten them - and the political atmosphere rendered as fair as this day was at the going down of the sun.

About 12 O'clock agreeable to public notice given by the committee of arrangement, I mingled with a large & respectable procession of democratic republicans who march'd under the command of Major Norton to the Meetinghouse - where a verry appropriate and feeling prayer was offer'd up by Mr. Marsh - and the declaration of independence read by Mr. David Fay - accompannied with the most melodious and delightful singing I ever heard from the galleries. When the exercises at the meeting house were ended, the procession return'd to the state arms. Having appointed Col'n Fay President & Judge Galusha vice president. The remainder of the day

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was verry agreeably spent in drinking drinking some excellent toasts prepar'd by the committee under the discharge of cannon - with songs adapted to the ocasion and tunes from the band. (which had march'd with the procession). Every thing was conducted with order and decency. At the close of the day, several of our revolutionary patriots, gave a few hearty and genuine republican volunteer toasts - which exicted a burst of unfeigned joy thro the whole assembly. I never enjoy'd greater satisfaction on such an occasion, than I have this day. At a proper time the assembly dispers'd without confusion. - The forepart of the day was verry

118 rainy - and the P. M. was showery wind N. W. clear at night. -

TUESDAY JULY 5th.

Plowing for wheat

I collected my team together (the same which I us'd on the 23 to 27th. of June) and went to plowing up that pasture which lies about 40 rods S. of Ira's house - adjoining Mr. Brown's Fay-farm, and on the N. side of the field which I sow'd with rye and wheat last fall. (see p. 60 Sept. 18 p. 60). It contains about 5 acres. My father advis'd me not to plow up that piece of meadow which is spoken of, at p. 116 June 25th. He thinks by turning water on to it next spring - it would yield a fine crop of grass next season. I concurr'd with him in the opinion - and relinquish'd the scheme which I had form'd at the time above alluded to. - Ira mow'd a swath of grass from the lane thro' the meadow to the field which I am plowing, for the team to go in, when returning or going thence. He spent the rest of the day in the garden and other yards about the house. - Cloudy & cool wind N. W.

A letter receiv'd of Jonas - remarks on the same.- vide p.8 & 9th - 62 - 84 - 109 - 83. Jan'y. 8th. Sept. 14 - p. 133 vide ps. 165 & 167

Yesterday I receiv'd a letter from brother Jonas dated 12th. of June - in answer to that which I wrote him on the 14 of April - p. 96th. He is verry sorry to hear of Capt. Moses being appointed select(ed man - says they have no party divisions amongst them, at their elections - choasing, without respect to his political opinion, the man whom they esteem most fit for discharging the duties of his office. In this way he thinks they do not entertain such hard feelings towards each other as a people do who are ever jarring about politics.

Speaking of the embargo, he says "Our federalists talk against the embargo, and say that it open'd the eyes of the people the most of anything that has been done by this administration." That "Vermont is working over like new-cyder back to federalism".

He says the federalists (as is really the case) want to make it appear as bad as they can. I find his idea is pretty correct on this point. His reason for not writing was because his work hurried him so much, that he could spare no time for it - - - having no one to help him - only as he exchanges work with his neighbors - and adds that, he has done more work this last spring than any two "down-country lads" - to confirm it - he tells me of making 200 cwt of maple sugar clear'd plow'd and sow'd 4 acres of wheat - and planted 6 acres of corn - and (sis) half an acre of potatoes all which look tolerable well. He thinks by keeping

119 wheat two years before it is sow'd that it would pay well for it because it will not be so easily winter'd kill'd, as that which is sown the same year in which it grew. He seems to have fine prospects - in his crops. Isaac Hopkins, he said inform'd him that I talk'd of going to Hopkinton, but was afraid it would be nothing but talk - and then proceeds to give me a flattering idea of the improvement on his farm &c - adding that he is much pleas'd with his lot, believing it to be the best in town. This letter gives us a

119 better account of his condition than I ever receiv'd since he liv'd there. But he adds one article which nearly spoils it all. - He asks a favor of me in the following language. "I am with reluctance oblig'd once more to request of you one small favor - which is, to pay Isaac Shelden of Pawlet about fourteen dollars, due to him for grain. "If you can" he says" without injuring yourself too much, it will be a great favor to me" - and promises to reward me for it as soon as he is able. And says further "you do not know what it costs to buy all your grain for almost two years. I am in hopes this will be the last time of asking for help, on this score. You have been verry good to us, which makes (make) me guilty to ask for any more, but necessity compels me to it". His letter after this, closes with the usual compliments. -

I am perfectly willing to assist my brother, as far as it is in my power. I wish I could help him now, to this small sum which he has sent for in his letter, but I cannot. He tells me of my ignorance of buying my grain for my family - I can tell him of his want of the knowledge of (a) the feelings a man must have, who is left in the situation in which I found myself, when he left this town. Without enumerating partticulars - it is sufficient to say, that he left 200 dollars for me to pay out of my own, or my father's property. If I calcullate rightly - about eighty one dollars have been paid off, which leaves one hundred and nineteen, still unpaid! How does he think this can be done at this criticale time? No produce can be sold - what other way have I, except that, to pay my debts - None - He ought to be sensible of it. Had he ~~had~~ made better calculations when he had property, he might certainly have been able to remove from this town clear of debt - if no more - and then - I could be able to help him in his present necessitous condition. To look back on his past life, as well as that of many others affords but a melancholly picture, over which I shall draw a veil that I may not expose defects in the human character, I do not wish to be understood that he supported a proflgate character - but that his notions about dealing with men, widely differ'd from mine. - I shall write to him as soon as an opportunity offers. - See pgs. 84th 62d, 133 at bottom - 152 p. 167, p. 165.

WEDNESDAY JULY 6th. The business continu'd as it was yesterday.

Plowing In the A. M. I plow'd alone - P. M. Hiram led the horses. Ira went down to Safford's grind-stone and ground 3 new scythes. In the P. M he was busy, but he has not inform'd me what he was about. My father worried himself verry much at mowing. The grass near the barn in the N. meadow and that next the garden in the S. meadow, being pretty large, he concluded it must be mow'd - and has according cut down a small piece in each meadow. -

120 THURSDAY JULY 7th. Finish'd plowing that field I enter'd on

Finish'd plowing

Tuesday. It was not plow'd in pieces, but turn'd over in one entire piece, except a small bit at one corner. Ira work'd for Parsons - with his team and my waggon at drawing Sand and lime. Temperate weather. -

Beginning of haying List given in, to Young.

FRIDAY JULY 8th. In the A. M. My business was of no great importance - P. M. we got in my father's hay - some by poling - some by waggoning - This may fairly be said to be the begining of our haying. - On the morning of 6th. I presented to Mr. Young, one of the listers, the following list of property - viz 100 acres of improv'd land 8 cows 7 heifers & steers - three horses - one 2 years old colt - dwelling & poll. Ira gave in his poll and house. Moderate kind of warm weather - signs of rain.

I am going to Troy to morrow - and expect to be absent till monday night - Matters will be noted down in this journal during that time by my son. -

Aletter to Mr. Ebeneezer Harwood.

SATURDAY JULY 9th. Being rainy in the morning put my father's mind in a verry fluctuating state for some time. However, having made all necessary prepations - he and my grand-mother sat off for Troy. I work'd some in the garden - and while it rain'd in the A. M. dictated a letter for my father to his brother Ebenezer - the purport of which is - after the usual compliments and giving him an account of our family concerns - and mentioning the last letter receiv'd from his brother Jonas - this, that - his ~~crops~~ my father's "crops look well" and after - telling him how much grain he has on the ground - the letter says "But - if this embargo (~~continues)~~ should not be rais'd next fall, what profit will my surplus produce be to me? I grant that is a serious question. - I know if that should be the case - my grain would afford me no profit - and by that means I should be left without anything to pay my debts with.- However with all this oppression on my shoulders I shall cheerfully submit to it, so long as I see good reasons why it should be so. I fear there are ill-dispos'd persons in your part of the country, trying to deceive the people - making them believe that there is no need of the embargo - telling them how amazing oppressive it is - that no reason exists for it - &c Propagating a thousand idle stories to excite the people to rise against the laws - and bring about a revolution in the government - many would go so far as to become british subjects. - If you are a friend to the independence of the ~~independence~~ the U. S. A., you must firmly adhere to its laws. There are the strongest reasons in the world for the embargo - it is the only way the government could take to avoid war, which of all other calamities (in) bro't about by human means, is the worst inflicted on man. The causes of the embargo originated in the orders & decrees of the British and French governments - by which our commerce and sea-

120 men are subjected to indiscriminate capture. It is true the british (have) would permit us to trade to their own ports - under humiliating restrictions, which if submited to by us, would leave this country in a condition no better than when it was divided into distinct and separate colonies under their protection. -

121 In short, I consider it as necessary to maintain the government in its present measures, as it was to support our Congress in the gloomy times of the revolution. The times are truly alarming - and I fear in spite of all the wisdom of our government, we shall have war. -

I understand you have never paid but verry little ~~to~~ attention to elections. - The right of choosing our public servants, is of the first importance to every man in society, but how often it is disregarded. I trust you will certainly exercise this privilege at our next freemen's meeting. I hope you will choose those who are friendly to the general government, for our safety mateially depends on them. You may rest assur'd that Mr. Tichnor is firmly opos'd to the embargo - and everything done by the present administration - therefore I beseech of you not to vote for him. Gov. Smith is as good a man as we can get to fill that important station - and I believe every true friend to his country will support him" - The letter then closes with the common expressions of friendship. In copying this letter, I omited the following words, thro' mistake - speaking of Tichenor - it says "This information is not founded on hearsay but on actual observation". - Ira mended a cradle. I did not do much - when Ira had finish'd his job, we ground the scythes. Elder Stark call'd here about the middle of the day. He is on his way home, having been lately on a visit to the people of Hubberton. The old gentleman talks of going there to reside and preach to them. They are to give him an aswer in a few days. - It is my opinion Mr. Stark had better quit preaching entirely, and go to work on his farm, because I believe he is a much better farmer, than he is a preacher. - But, every one has (~~their~~) his notion, & he is welcome to his. -

Quite rainy in the forepart of the day - remain'd rather lowery and tolerable warm during the remaind of it - Wind S. E.

SUNDAY JULY 10th. For particular reasons I did not attend public service, but my grandfather and two or three others of the family muster'd out. It was so rainy, which render'd it such muddy walking in the road, that Ira & I were oblig'd to tackle the waggon to go and bring the women home. - The day did not pass away so agreeable as it would, if I had had a few late news papers - but the day was not totally lost because I found considerable satisfaction in other reading. The weather was dull and rainy - clouds ran low - wind South. -

MONDAY morning JULY 11. It rains pretty steadily. Isaac Godfrey came here

121 in order to help us hoe, but the weather being verry wet he went away again. Ira is gone to town - and I am writing. - I find my father has neglected setting down the weight of his wool - I will save him the trouble - it weighs 120 pounds, which averages three pounds to a sheep - there being 40 in the flock. p. 112 June 3d. - May 7 p. 103.

Monday-night. Ira and I in the P. M. hoe'd 8 rows of corn across the field - of (5) 48 rods in length. The ground was pretty heavy on account of so much rain having lately fallen on it.

My father arriv'd here in the edge of the evening. It rain'd most of the A. M. - P. M. Fair - wind S. warm night N. W.

My journal ends here. -

122 TUESDAY JULY 12th. I will now attempt to give some account of

Visit to Troy & appearnace of things there see Aug. 24 p 131

my late Troy visit. - On Saturday (~~night~~) evening I arriv'd in that village, safe & sound. - Sunday - attended a meeting of a society of the church of England, but was not verry well entertain'd. During this short stay at this place, I found much uneasiness among the merchants on account of the embargo. They were continually complaining of the administration; throwing the whole blame on it for the stoppage of trade. Mr. John Boardman, a zealous federal merchant, said to me "You are certainly on the wrong side". He said that Mr. Tichenor would be our Gov'r. next year. Mr. Doty (my brother in-law) is strongly pursuaded that the government cannot stand - that there is not energy enough in it. In fact, I saw such a display of federalism here, that I felt quite disgusted with it. If one could look no farther than the little village of Troy without any information of the views of the government in laying the embargo, he could not be blam'd for being oppos'd to it. But compare our distresses with those suffer'd by the people of Ireland and England and we shall find ourselves a happy people. Compare these merchants with those virtuous patriots who in 1774 agreed not import any goods from England or her dependencies - until she would restore the rights of the people of America, which they had so unjustly invaded - and we shall find a most shameful degeneracy in the conduct of this class of men. I view the present and future with astonishment - The federalists are determin'd to go all lengths to regain power - Republicans must be vigilent - self-government is our sole dependence - Reason must combat with passion - and we must take care that the former is not defeated by the latter.

Amount of the articles bo't in Troy

I had considerable business to attend to on Monday morning, both for myself and Mr. Parsons. I bo't 10 Gall's St. Croix rum, at 94 cents per Galn, 28 lbs. sugar at 11 cents per lb and other smaller articles to the amount of 28 dollars - (~~4-dell'rs~~) 24D - 69cts. is credited, the rest I paid down. I came out of the village about 11 O'clock A. M. While at Haskin's, what was verry singular, no other waggon except my own, (came) call'd there. Nothing uncommon happen'd on our

122 way till we reach'd home. I bo't the Constitution of (UN) United States with that of each individual State.-

Third time of hoeing.

Altho I was quite out of health in the forepart of the day yet I brav'd it out and work till near 12 O'clock, having become so faint by that time as to be oblig'd to leave the field and go home and take some refreshment. In the P. M. I felt better, but was verry much fatigu'd at night. We are now hoeing our corn for the last time. Isaac Godfrey work'd for us, to-day and James Willcox in the P. M. Cloudy - warm weather - wind in different points of the compass.

I.Godfrey two days.

WEDNESDAY JULY 13th. Dilligently prusu'd the business of hoeing. Godfrey & Wilcox were here during the whole day. Mr. Joseph Thomas jun. took dinner with us. His place of residence is in Hardwick in the N. part of this state. He says the people there, do not like the embargo verry well. On being interogated what he suppos'd the reason was for laying it, He said, he tho't it was put on, to bring England to terms, but could see no advantage in stoping vessels - carriages &c from going into Canada - The other part of the embargo, on our sea vessels, he lik'd well enough. - He seem'd to think Jefferson was much to blame for sending back the late treaty to England without signing it. The British, he tho't, ought to have the right of ~~the~~ searching our merchant vessels for their deserters - I shall not take the trouble of repeating any more of his federal jargon. All I have to say of him is, that he is not a leading, but a deluded federalist. If no one knew or valued our rights any more than this man does, we should fall an easy prey to the British Lion.

J. Wilcox 2½ days. -

Mr.Jo'h Thomas jun's. opinion of the embargo.

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Waters finish'd hoeing his corn to-day. - My cornfield now wears a most captivating and beautiful aspect. What can look neater than to behold a field of from 14 to 15 acres completely cover'd with green corn - a few days before it begins to (a) tassel out; This is a sight, which has become quite familiar to me, - tho' it grows not the less pleasing. I have seen larger corn, but a greater quantity smallar than that in my field. It grows pretty even and with much exuberance Plaistering it, I think, forwarded it greatly. - See 22d June p. 115. -

Beauty of the cornfield. -

Good, but middling warm weather - wind N. - Grain of all kinds, and grass, between Bennington and Troy, are in a fine growing, and forward condition. -

THURSDAY JULY 14th. This day I finish'd hoeing my corn the 3d and last time for this season. Had only Wilcox besides my own help. I shall hoe Parsons's for him to-morrow. Weather much like yesterday. -

Hoeing completed.

FRIDAY JULY 15th. Parsons's corn was hoed out to-day. He sent only one of his apprentices out with us. (J. Willcox) It was done in a better manner than it had been

Work for Parsons see June 13

123 at any other hoeing but the work being done poorly at first, made hard diging for us. I am as much fatigu'd this night as I have been (except Monday night) at any time these two months. It is of some satisfaction to us that there remains no more of this work of our own to do. Perhaps if a neighbor should be in distress about getting his work along, I might turn out and hoe for him a day, otherwise I don't think I shall do any more of that business this season. Parsons's corn is in a verry thiving situation.

Fair and warm - wind South. -

Sellon - butcher

Mr Sellon butcher'd a young calf about 4 weeks old last evening, the quarters of (wit) which, altogother weigh'd lbs.

SATURDAY JULY 16th. Being the first day that we have attempted to do much at haying this season, it must not be expected we should have perform'd wonders. It took nearly the whole of the A. M. to get our scythes in order. Hiram is awkard about the business, and dislikes it much, however he must submit to it - whether it suits him or not. Ira was sent to mill with the waggon and horses - he had some other errands to attend to which hinder'd him till about noon. P. M. he went to Wm. Norton's to get a hay (a h) rack which has borrow'd of me some months since, but Ira was oblig'd to return without it, because the man was using it. Nortons bro't it home at night. It (wants) needs much repairing. I had intended to do that, this day, had Norton return'd it in season - by his negligence I have sustain'd considerable injury. Secur'd what was mow'd in the A. M. & mow'd some just at night.

Haying

This day has been remarkably warm, beyound anything experienc'd before this summer. - verry little air in motion. The heat continu'd verry burthensome in the evening. -

124 SUNDAY JULY 17th. Only myself and son attended public worship from our family. For want of a good memory, I am unable to note down what Marsh had to offer, either in his A. M. or P. M. sermon. The last night was a verry uncumfortable one on account of the heat - and it has been almost insupportable to-day. About the middle of the day a verry hard shower of rain made its appearance in the N., but verry little of it came to this part of the country. -

Verry warm weather

Haying

MONDAY JULY 18th. Haying in all its branches has been carried on to-day with considerable success. My father reap'd part of the barley - Work'd pretty late at night for for fear of rain. James Wilcox and Wm. Allison are my hir'd help - the one in his 18th. the in his 19th year. Good weather for business - wind N. much cooler than yesterday.

TUESDAY JULY 19th. More grass was mow'd down & about three tons

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Salted hay.

of clover hay carried in to the barn. This hay is laid at the bottom of the E. mow and being pretty green I have salted it. The first time I ever tried the experiment. - Allison and Hiram drew in the hay. Poor hay weather - had a considerable quantity expos'd the rain which began to fall moderately at night. - Father finish'd cutting his barley to-day. -

WEDNESDAY JULY 20th. This morning verry contrary to what we expected last evening, bro't verry fine weather which lasted the whole day. Hiram was taken ill of a bad cold so that he was oblig'd to quit the field. The business has been carried on with spirrit and animation. A large quantity of grass was mow'd in the A. M. In the P. M. Ira and I waggon'd in 7 loads of hay.- Cool - wind N.

THURSDAY JULY 21st. The most important occurrance of this day is, the finishing off the mowing of the N. meadow. All the hay that was dry enough was raked & drawn into the barn. - Had a few hundreds left in the winrow. One of my hir'd men was much afflicted with bleeding at the nose. If he had not been verry anxious to work that he might loose no time, he would certainly have left the field; tho' (he) his labor did not amount to so much (as) by considerable as it would, had he been well. Parsons's boys (Girdon & Nath'l.) work'd here from 10 in the morning till night. - Some of the flax was pull'd. - Cloudy - warm and likelihoods of rain - wind S. - The barley was put in to the barn to-day - after having been reapt bound & carri'd together by my father since Monday. It is good looking grain and grew on about 3/8 of an acre - 94 shieves of it. -

N. meadow mow'd

FRIDAY JULY 22d. I call'd the boys out verry early on account of its being verry likely to rain and secur'd the hay which was expos'd to the weather. It rain'd about an hour or more and then broke away, but continu'd cloudy Parsons bro't on 2 of his boys & Godfrey about 10 in the morning & join'd with me & my hands in pulling flax. Wilcox lost nearly the whole of his day - being unwell. The flax was pull'd and set up and two loads of hay drawn into the barn.

Flax pull'd see p.126 -p.99 - Aprl.

Bad weather for haying - some rainy wind S. -

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Harvesting.

SATURDAY JULY 23d. Last evening Ira went down to brother Robinson's and borrow'd his cradle. With this, he and Wilcox enter'd the rye-field and cut down, bound, and stack'd about half of an acre of the grain. The business of cradling is new to Ira. When he had done what I have mention'd the rain oblig'd him (about 11 in the A. M.) to abandon the field, 'till sun about 2 hours high at night, when he resum'd the business afresh & continu'd working 'till dark. Allison (who in P. M. went to work with Ira) myself & son mow'd about

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Mr. Aylsworth.

2 acres of the N. part of the S. meadow - W. & S. W. of the garden. It is a rough piece of meadow & does not yield much hay neither. Mr. Aylsworth - a noted whet-stone peddler, put up here this night. I bought 3 of his whe of his whet-stones, for 12 cents a piece of 2 he made me a present. He is an old gentleman about 82 years of age. It continu'd verry cloudy till about 11 in the A. M. and then began to rain - broke away about the middle of the P. M. but the clouds were not dispers'd - wind N. -

SUNDAY JULY 24th. Went to Church and the rev'd. Mr. Marsh from the desk. Early this morning Mesrs. VanHusan & Luman Norton came here to pay a short visit to my son. Mr. VanHusan immediately began a conversation concerning political matters. He undertook to demonstrate the impossibility of establishing manufactures in this country, by showing how much cheaper the English and other nations can afford their manufactures than we can - that there being so many vacant lands in this country which afforded so much greater profit than the manufacturing business that men could not find it their interest to pursue it, until those lands are entirely fill'd up. That part of the embargo first laid by congress he acquieseed in, but the supplementary acts he disapprov'd of verry much, because it deni'd us the privilege of a trade which would have bro't great resourses into the country. His discourse being directed to my son, I tho't it rather out of order to interfere. But had I answer'd him after he had spoken of our manufactures; it would have been something like this - that the present period affords the most flattering prospects ever known before in the United States. That, the low price of produce render'd lands less valuable, which would divert the attention of many of our citizens from settling new lands to the manufacturing business, that, the price of provisions being low, must consequently make labor cheap in proportion - and the suspension of trade must exclude for a time, foreign articles fabricated from (R.) raw materials procur'd in this country. - taking all these & many other considerations into view - I can have no doubt of the ultimate establishment of manufactures in this country. As to the embargo, my opinion is, that everry act relating to it, is highly necessarry - to preserve peace and harmony in the U. S. A. & make the English & other European nations know how to value our commerce by being entirely depriv'd of it. Mr. VanHusan is a verry candid federalist, but he cannot support his principles by sound reasoning. -

Mr. VanHuson argument on manufactures. -

to our manufactures

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Mr. Gould

See Augst 24th p131.

Arriv'd here this evening from Canadarque on his way to Walpole (N. H.) a Mr. Gould with a four horse-waggon. This man relates that the people in the Western parts of N. York, are much divided about politics - that they carry their political opposition to such a pitch that one party will not even associate with another eacheather. Mr. Gould is a man of handsome and

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easy adress - his words flow in a smooth and grammatical style. He calls himself a federalist but his notions about government are like mine. The embargo he prefer'd to war and tho't it best for the people to be united in supporting our laws & government. Altho' his political tenets are tainted with federal navy and fortufication stuff, yet he is the most peacible and candid federalist I have met with in a long time. Mrs. Lines a sister of my mother and ~~and~~ another lady were bro't here by this gentleman - They will pursue their journey on the morrow. Good weather, pretty warm - wind N. -

his politics

MONDAY JULY 25th. Three hands work'd in the rye field in the A. M. P. M. only two were there, one being call'd off to assist about getting up hay. That hay which was left in the N. meadow - with what was mow'd on Saturday was all safely put in the barn. The rye which has been cut down to-day is secur'd against a rain. My father has work'd pretty hard to day as is common for him almost every day. He is this day seventy three years of age. Wind was strong from the S. and many signs of rain were seen at night. Mr. Gould began his journey pretty early this morning. Capt. Waters came here verry late this evening. -

My father's birthday

TUESDAY JULY 26th. Rainy weather during the A. M. prevented my going in to the field. P. M. We enter'd the it and finish'd off the rye and took down a small quantity of the wheat. My rye this year is of an excellent quality more being produc'd on an acre than I known before for many years - on this farm. Showers threaten'd us from every quarter, but it so happen'd that verry little rain fell here in the P. M. wind S. W. -

Quality of the rye Aug. 4.p50

On Friday I pull'd my flax. I ought to have observ'd at that time that it is a middling crop, but it has suffer'd considerable injury by being badly twisted about by the the late rains.

Flax - what kind of a crop. April -99p.

WEDNESDAY JULY 27. This day I began to harvest my winter wheat. Besides my common help, I had Adam Waters and his brother Elisha - and Joseph Plank his apprentice. ~~Sixty~~ Six acres and sixty rods of ground - cover'd with a good crop of wheat, was reapt and left in the gavel.- 18th Sept. 1807. Every one complain'd of being much wearied at night. Good weather - A few clouds wind N. W.

THURSDAY JULY 28th. We reapt only about an acre in the morning, the rest of the day being spent in binding & stacking what was already down. I had the pleasure at night of seeing the whole of the grain which had been cut down, in stacks. Met with some embarrassment for want of good stackers, however I made out tolerably well myself in the business - as did Ira & Elisha Waters

127 The weather continu'd favorable as it had been for some hours before, but signs of a storm were perceiv'd a little before night.

FRIDAY JULY 29th. When we enter'd the wheat-field in the morning, there were four acres of it cover'd with standing wheat. During the A. M. we work'd at it pretty steadily, without being hinder'd much by bad weather. But in the afternoon it became so rainy at one time that we all left the field and concluded to go to mowing, but in a little time the rain ceas'd and we return'd to our harvesting again. Tho' there remain'd only about an acre to go over, when we enter'd the field the last time, - before that could be finish--'d the rain came so heavily that the business was suspended nearly half an hour. - Notwithstanding the ill fortune of the day - I saw all my grain well secur'd some time before the close of it. - To express out joy when the work was completed - I appointed Mr. E. Waters president who in order to make a more majestic appearance, took his stand on a huge rock which is in W. part of the field, from whence he deliver'd the word of command. Having paraded the company in order - three loud & hearty cheers were given. -

Wheat-harvest ended.

Rainy

I think I may flatter myself that I have receiv'd a midddling crop of winter-wheat. In some parts it was verry thick and heavy - while in others it was thin & unproductive on account of having been kill'd during the winter. Spots like these were rather green & rusty - while that which had had an uninterrupted growth was ripe enough and had no rust on the straw. The E. wing of the field produc'd the most wheat upon an acre. I have calculated upon having at the rate of 20 bushels from an acre. According to my prospects last spring, I should not have been disappointed at this time, had I (no) been bless'd with no more than half a crop of this grain. (see p. 101 April 29th) There are about 11 acres of the ground on which the wheat grew.

Observations on the crop. See Sept. 18th 1807

It has generally been my good fortune to have good help in harvest time. The 2 Waters's are quick - smart hands in the field - few will out do them - Ira is also verry useful in all the various ways of saving grain - and is entitled to the praise of being the best stacker in the company. Young Plank - Allison - Wilcox & my son - acted well their respective parts. I must here notice a circumstance worthy of admiration. My father took his sickle and reapt a work of several rods in length in as short a time and with as much ease as any man in the field. On the 25th he enter'd his 74th year.

Character of the laborers. -

My father's reaping.

The common price for a day's work in harvesting is a bushel of wheat. I paid E. Waters in cash. There remains now only about an acre and a half of spring grain (chiefly oats) to harvest. That I may know at another season how I may seecure my grain in the field. I shall mention that, that which was dry was put up in

Stacking

127 stacks of about 10 shocks a piece - that which was green and damp - was done up in small stacks of 12 or thirteen shieves - set close together over which is thrown a cap, in order to carry of the rain. In the latter way I have secur'd a considerable quantity of my wheat - tho' it was quite wet with rain. -

SATURDAY JULY 30th. The forencon being rainy - and having some business in town I saddled a horse and rode on to Court-house-hill. The forenoon was spent in conversing with some of my republican brethin, by which - - - - - - - I gain'd information of the situation of parties in this and other parts of the country. The aspect is more cheering than it has been for some time. Republicans in the N. part of the state seem to be awake in this perilous & trying season. It is suppos'd that Tichenor will meet with as much opposition in those parts as he did last year. - However this information comes only from a small part of the state - and it may turn out verry different from what might be collected from the news just mention'd. There will be verry great exertions made by both parties. Every man who feels himself interested in the cause of real republicanism - cannot view with an indifferent eye the events of the day. I cannot suppress my anxiety for the success of the republican party at the ensueing election. - Mow'd in the P. M. tho' it was a little rainy. Allison & Ira did their part. Work'd until dark.

128 Political affairs in Vt.

See Augst. 24th. p131

From a late hour in the night, until the middle of the day a great deal of rain fell - which came from the S. or rather S. E.

SUNDAY JULY 31st. Went to meeting and heard Mr. (Sp) Marsh preach. - It is common for me at the end of each month to take a retrospect - I shall only say of this month that altho' much rain has been pour'd upon us, It has produc'd no inconvenience and has been the cause of bringing forward all kinds of vegetables. At one time, about the 17th the heat was verry great, but at other times it was no more than common. We hear from different parts of the country of verry heavy crops of grain being taken from the earth - which in the present state of affairs - can bring no wealth into the country. The patriotism of the people will soon undergo a severer trial than it ever has, since the beginning of our revolution - How maelancholly are the times!! Insurrection is courted by all the leading and many of the underling federalists. They calculate upon a division of these United States - Republicans must rouse and unite in defence of the constitution. - If that be given up - we cease to be a nation.

Review of the month

Aspect in the political atmosphere. Augst. 24th p.131.

AUGUST 1st. Waters work'd at mowing here to-day - Ira was sick and did not work. Got in the hay which was mow'd on Saturday. Good weather. Mr. Moses Doty arriv'd

Mr.M.Doty

128 here this evening. -

TUESDAY AUGUST 2d. Mow'd down a pretty large piece of grass in the A. M. and in the P. M. it was all rak'd up, and a considerable part of it drawn to the barn & stack'd. Ira is builder of the stack and loads - and I use the pitch-fork. Allison's left me to-day at noon, the time for which he agreed to work for me having expir'd. For half a month he receives 5 Dolls. - He was always willing enought to do all he could at work, but in many kinds of work he lack'd in skill, especially in mowing. I should have been glad to have had him this P. M., but had imbib'd such a dislike for the business, that he could not be prevail'd with to stay, on any account. Jo. Plank work'd the greater part of the day - Waters work'd also but it is the last day he intends to work for me. For what he has done, and his apprentice's labor, he receives hay for pay.

Wm. Allison his half month.

WEDNESDAY (July) AUGUST 3d. My hands are now reduc'd down to 4 including myself - Wilcox being the only one hir'd - A considerable piece was mow'd and severals loads of hay were stack'd & l carried to Waters. The hay which was mow'd today, but the aid of Parsons's boys had to be call'd in - or it could not have been occomplish'd. I was more overcome with fatigue than I have been at any time for six months past. The day has been verry warm - A little cloudy and dry. -

Laboring strength at this time.

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THURSDAY AUGUST 4th. Prov'd rather unfortunate for me, because I had a good deal of hay wet, which, had I work'd it right might have been sav'd. Instead of going immediately about getting in the hay in the morning (for there had been no dew) - all hands were closely engag'd in mowing, till noon. In the P. M. we began waggoning off the hay as fast as possible, but before the 4th load could be put on a sudden shower overtook us and put a stop to haymaking for the remainder of the day - and nothing more was done, except mowing about half an acre. Three loads were carried to Mr. Parsons, one of which Ira turn'd off near his barn, which forwarded my business considerably. I was sorry to have my hay wet, but I resign'd up to the will of providence. -

Rainy in the P. M. with some thunder - and verry warm. In the evening there was verry heavy thundershower, but not of long duration. The thunder was heavy, but at a distance. -

FRIDAY AUGUST 5th. The weather during the forepart of the day wore such an unfavorable aspect that, I could not do much. It however, became cool and dry in the P. M. and enabled me to dry a considerable quantity of hay and carry it in.

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I. Godfrey pays fifteen Dolls. on a note of Feb. 1, 1808.

Hiram was unwell in the A. M. he did a little work in the P. M. This evening Isaac Godfrey paid me fifteen dollars - 10 of of which is a note against Adam Waters - and the rest in cash which is endors'd on his note - given on the first of las Feb. 85 p.

SATURDAY AUGUST 6th. All the hay which we had down was well made and stack'd. If my father had not assisted about stacking it would have been a pretty snug day's work for us. As it was, the sun was down when the last load was put on. In the evening James & Hiram assisted me about binding and stacking a small piece of oats, by moon-light. We drew loads of hay from our meadow today, which is in good order, tho' it has been rain'd on considerably. My father has assisted about the business this week as much as his strength would allow him to - and has been of no small advantage to us neither. This morning I paid Mr. Joshua Gates 10 dollars.on a note which I gave him in for 63 dollars. Good weather wind N. and pretty cool. -

Mr. Gates receives 10 D. of me

SUNDAY AUGUST 7th. The celebrated Mr. Spaulding preach'd. My memory being poor, prevents my giving his texts or what ideas he gave out. - The South wind blew up and towards night it began to rain a little. -

Mr. Spaulding. -

MONDAY AUGUST 8th. We cut down our oats. They were stout and heavy and beaten down by the rains, which oblig'd us to do most of the work with the sickle. Isaac Godfrey work'd for me this P. M. but not with the greatest activity, for he is unacquainted with the business in a great measure. Excellent weather - clear - wind N. -

I. Godfrey ½ day's work.

TUESDAY AUGUST 9th. Business went on verry well. Ira and Hiram drew in grain and Wilcox & myself bound and stack'd the oats, besides my helping at the barn about unloading. Weather continu'd as it was yesterday. I omited noticing yesterday that a small piece of spring-wheat was reapt, which contrary to what I expected when the seed was sown, turns out to be a tolerable crop. Of the ground on which the oats grew, there were 2 acres and the spring-wheat on - See April 25th. p. 99. -

Spring-wheat

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WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10th. My son and I work'd by ourselves at haying. Ira & James kept verry busy about drawing grain. My father takes hold of business as tho' he had just enter'd his 25th. year. He helps mow away the grain and spreads all the hay - and sometimes when we are getting up hay he stacks it, for the sake of saving it better and to forward the work. Dry - warm - and some smokey. -

My father works pretty hard. -

THURSDAY AUGUST 11th. So near like yesterday that it needs no

description. - Endors'd three dollars more on Godfrey's note. See Sat.

Hay sent to Maj'r Norton.

Mr. Water'n,

FRIDAY AUGUST 12th. Sent 2 loads of hay (valu'd at a ton) were sent in the A. M. to Maj'r. Norton. Mr. Waterman work'd for us to-day. We mow'd down a pretty good piece in the A. M. and got it into stack (except a few hhds) in the P. M. and a load of wheat was bro't from the field at night. Good hay-weather - wind S. warm.

Waterman only half a day. -

SATURDAY AUGUST 13th. There being but 1 load of wheat left in the field last night - and the weather not verry good, it was drawn in pretty early in the day, which completes the business of drawing winter grain. There (are) is no other grain out (not) now except the oats. We mow'd about 2 acres of middling kind of grass in the A. M. Mr. Waterman work'd with us in that part of the day but in the P. M. he was call'd off by Mr. Parsons (in whose service he labors) to assist him about moving a building. With some exertion we were enabled to get it all secur'd. The weather was cloudy and threaented us with rain. -

SUNDAY AUGUST 14th. Attended meeting for half a day and heard a pretty good sermon deliver'd by Mr. John Leland. -

Hay'g and hay'g finish'd. - See 18th.

MONDAY AUGUST 15th. By hard labor and good fortune I finish'd off my haying. - Sent one load of hay to Adam Waters and 1 to Parsons. For further particulars concerning hay - see Aug. 18th. And the prices of my hir'd men will be found at
The weather was verry favorable - being cool and clear.-

Two Public days. -

TUESDAY AUGUST 16th. With a considerable collection of democratic republicans - belonging to this, and the adjacent towns who were exempted, from military service, I participated in the celebration of the famous battle fought near this town on the 16th of August 1777 between a detachment of Gen'l Burgoyne's Army & a large body of New England militia under the command of Gen'l Stark in which the latter prov'd successful. I shall not presume to give the particulars of the day - shall only mention that, an oration was pronounc'd by Mr. John Leland of *Sheffield - after which they return'd to the Court-room and pass'd it away in drinking a number sentimental toasts - under the discharge of cannon. All went on in usual good order and harmony. See the Bennington paper of Aug. 22d. The first Regiment of the 1st. Brigade in the 1st Division - met this day under the command of Col'n David Robinson - it will not be dismiss'd until sometime to-morrow. Fair - wind S. W. -

130 WEDNESDAY AUG'T 17. Labor was suspended and my brother & I went in to the field in which the regiment was paraded and were spectators of the various evolutions perform'd by it. When General Roberts came to review the regiment, his horse started at the sound of the trumpet and nearly threw him off, but by help of his aids & his own exertions he recover'd his right position & went thro' with his business. The regiment was dismissed about 3 in the P. M. - After this we return'd home.

Fine weather for any kind of business - especially for that in which our militia were engag'd. -

(*Cheshire - Mss.)

131 THURSDAY AUGUST 18th. Our oats were drawn in & some rowan was mow'd which is the chief business done this day. - Of our wheat this year there are 335 shocks - Rye 68 shocks, Spring wheat 12 oats 51 shocks - (and Spring-wheat 12 shocks). I have calculated the expence of hiring labor in doing my haying at 17 Dolls and 33 cents - of this (~~which~~) Wilcox whose time expir'd on Monday) - or more properly Mr. Parsons receives nine Dolls. Reckoning every expence thro haying and harvesing exclusive of our own labor - it amounts to 44 D. & 91 cts. I have paid for labor chiefly in ~~the~~ produce. Hay goes at 5 dolls per ton. Parsons had 2 tons A. Waters and Major Norton 1 ton each. We calculate that we have cut about (forty) 40 tons of hay this season. The season has been verry favorable, all our hay and grain was put up in the best order. Our grain we reckon will turn out after the following rate. Wht. 19 qts. per shocks the rye at rather more than 1 bhl per shock - spring-wheat and the oats 43 quarts. The winter wheat grew on 11 acres - the rye on - 3½ Oats 2 spring - wheat ½ acre nearly. Some threshing was done - and some other light business. Ira with three horses harrow'd on the plow-field.

FRIDAY AUG'ST. 19th. We thresh'd a few shieves of rye in the A. M. & in the P. M. cut up a few bushes in the S. meadow. Mr. Aldrich came to me and tried to made a bargain with me about seed wheat. He propos'd to exchange 'd some wheat of an inferior quality for the same quantity of seed, (~~but-I~~) & so pay me the odds, but I would not do it.

SATURDAY AUG'ST 20th. Ira work'd with his team, and Myself & son work'd at ditching in the S. meadow - to straighten the the course of the S. brook - Some signs of a storm at night - wind S. E. -

SUNDAY AUG'ST. 21st. Mr. Madison of Shaftsbury preach'd. Last night some rain was shower'd upon us, but not to soak the ground. Cool air - wind Northwardly. -

131 MONDAY AUG'ST. 22d. Labor'd in Mr. Sellon's field of oats - on the S. part of the Fay farm. His oats are short, thin, and badly lodg'd - Hiram & myself reapt among them all day half the day he has gratis. Ira went with his team. Seth Parsons took away his mare from my pasture on Saturday. Good day for business. I lam'd my wrist reaping to-day - otherwise the work was by no means of verry easy performance, because we were oblig'd to reap down hill. I should not have help'd Mr. Sellon at this time, had it not been for his work being verry much behind hand. -

TUESDAY AUG'ST. 23d. Ira & Hiram work'd for Sellon - Hiram at reaping oats - Ira at mowing in (The) Brown's swamp - contrary to my intention - because that swamp is notorious for the great quantity of ivy which it contains - and Ira is (easy) easily effected by it and will most assurdly repent of going into that meadow. Sellon is to blame, for he knew I didn't mean to have (him or) any of my people go into that swamp of ivy. - I plow'd on the rough part of the fallow ground. (see July 5th. - Dry weather want of rain. -

AUG'ST 24th. The boys work'd for Sellon - about getting up his oats - which by their assistance & his own help- he was enabl'd to accomplish. My labor was the same as yesterday. Mr. Parsons bro't us the last Bennington paper - which is accompanied by a supplement giving an account of the late murder (of) at the northward (the first time the news came to us, was on the 8th) - taken from evidence given in before the Court of Enquiry - After the evidence follows a spirited address to the people of this state. This affair confirms what I have frequently said and wrote about the federal party - See July 12th. p. 122. - p. 126. p.128. under political heads. -

THURSDAY 25th. Ditching and plowing our business - A fair and cool day. -

132 Ira poison'd

FRIDAY AUG'ST. 26th. Ira being unable to go with the team on account of his being considerably poison'd (See Tus'y) - Hiram took the team work it, 'till noon - P. M. I took it myself - and Hiram work'd at ditching .

A small quantity of rain came down - which caus'd a change of air from warm to chilly - more than a (g) change of the ground from dry to moist. -

Two teams at plowing.- Parsons's horses. -

SATURDAY AUG'ST. 27th. Borrow'd Parsons's horse and man'd out 2 teams. - Ira, having recover'd from his poison in a considerable degree, went with one & I with the other

132 We finish'd plowing our wheat-ground the 2d time this season. - Hiram was rather unwell and did but little at ditching - Cloudy - "flashy weather" - wind N. W. -

SUNDAY AUG'ST. 28th. I did not go to Church, but most of my people went. Mrs. Harwood rode to uncle Zachariah's and tarried till night - to enquire after aunt Lovina who has been for some time verry low with the dropsy. It is not expected that she will ever recover. - Chilly air - wind N. W. -

Plowing

MONDAY AUG'ST. 29th. Plow'd with a team of three horses on the oat-stubble. Ira ditch'd. Chilly and clear. -

TUESDAY AUG'ST. 30th. Plowing and ditching pursu'd again. Chilly weather - verry cold nights - wind N. W. -

WEDNESDAY AUG'ST. 31st. Business went on pretty well. - Thresh'd some wheat. - In the P. M. when Ira had done plowling - we went to threshing with horses. - Dry and warm. Cool nights. -

End of the month. -

The month of August goes out leaving us under a severe drought which retards the growth of corn verry materially. Springs and streams are verry low. - Some trees on the mountains are drying up. But little rain has fallen during this month - it is ardently hop'd for at present. -

Threshing wheat. -

THURSDAY SEPT. 1st. Thresh'd wheat with horses. Fair warm & smokey. - wind N. W. - Friday the same. -

Mr.Gilbert

SATURDAY SEPT. 3d. Dug some potatoes & clean'd ~~13~~ 18 bushels of seed-wheat. - Mr. Jonathan Gilbert came here this evening a return from a visit among his friends. He now resides in manchester. Warm and dry. -

Rains. -

SUNDAY SEPT. 4th. We had our horses tackl'd ready to to meetting, but were happily disappointed by its raining, because we had begun to wish for it verry heartily in this part of the country. After keeping our horses up till P. M. we put them out again. -

Aldrich buys seed-wheat. -

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5th. Put up fences in the A. M. P. M. clear'd up what wheat was on the floor on Saturday. The whole number of bushels that have been thresh'd this season are 34 - 30 at this time. Sold Mr. Aldrich 9 bushels of seed-wheat for which he is to pay me the highest market price, in cash, between this date & Nov. next.

Observations) on the weahter.

That rain which fell yesterday was certainly of much service to our drooping vegetables - Pleasant - wind W. -

132 TUESDAY SEPT. 6. Thresh'd wheat in the A. M. P. M. We went to the poll and voted on the democratic ticket (which may be seen in the papers of the day) and I am happy to state that we were successful. The boys return'd and thresh'd more wheat. Aunt Levina Harwood departed this life about 2 o'clock this morning after having suffer'd many days under a severe & painful disease. There has been a fine rain to-day - warm N. W. -

Freemen's meeting.

Mrs. Levins Harwood's death. -

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 7th. My father myself & most of the family attended Aunt Lavina's funeral - Mr. Madison of Shafsbury deliver'd a sermon. - Fair and cool wind N. W. - We hear from several towns - as Shatsbury, Pownal &c. that the election goes well in in those places. -

Her funeral

133 THURSDAY SPET. 8th. Ira harrow'd with three horses - Myself & Hiram cut stalks. P. M. Hiram help'd his grandfather gather his hops - I spent the P. M. cleaning up wheat. It is now pleasant weather and it is a season which is more pleasing than at any time in the whole year. A great many people think it a good time to go visiting amongst their freinds, but I find my business is as urgent at this season as in haying-time . - Stalks are to be cut - flax-seed to be beaten off - (Apples) - Flax to be spread - Apples must be gather'd and made into cyder. Sowing to be done in the meantime - Potatoes must be dug &c - Contemplating this business leave me no time to spare about visiting or at any diversions. - A contented mind is worth more than the Indies. He who plans his own business and leaves others to pursue theirs according to their minds will enjoy as much contentment as is within the reach of the human mind.- Good weather. -

Corn-stalks

observations on the season & on visiting. -

Mr. Atwood had three bushels of seed-wheat of me, for which he gave me $3\frac{1}{2}$ dollars. -

Atwood purchases seed whaat. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 9th. Began sowing - (un) under some disadvantages - however a tolerable days work was perform'd by going with two teams - P. M. besides sowing some in this part of the day I took up some stalks - which were cut yesterday.

Sowing begun. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 10th. Sow'd enough to keep two plows going all day which finish'd one part of the ground which is to be sown this season vide p. 116) Mr. Sellon work'd for me to-day at beating off flax-seen, I work'd with him what time I could get. This week I have sold $14\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of seed - for five and a half of which I have taken 7 shillings per bushel. I am now pasturing Godfrey's horse. - took him in on the 6th. I have work'd him 2 days this week. Pleasant. -

Sellon

seed-wheat

Godfrey's horse. -

SUNDAY SEPT 11th. Attended public worship as usual. - Went

133
Elections

to Col. Fay's and obtain'd information of Heman about the election. I found that the federalists have gain'd in some measure (in some) - it is suppos'd that Tichenor is elected Gov'r. Some liklihoods of rain. Elder Stark call'd on us and tarries with us this night. - A young man of the name of Wright preach'd to us to-day. He bids fair to make a bright preacher. -

Flax spread
Sellon &
his boys.-

MONDAY SEPT. 12th. The flax was spread and about 2 acres of sowing done. Sellon's boys work'd here all day & Sellon only in the P. M. A dark cloudy day wind N. E. - a little stormy near night. -

Sowing

TUESDAY SEPT. 13th. Sowing was the chief business finish'd off that piece S. of Ira's ecept smoothing it off with the harrow. All the wheat sown on this field is plaister'd except a small land near the N. E. corner, which is left to see the effect it may have on that which is plaister'd. I have receiv'd many applications for seed-wheat, but rejected them upon the plea of not having time to thresh it out. I mean keep it 2 or 3 three months hence to see if it won't bring a higher price than it does at present. - Cloudy, foggy in the morning - smokey - warm. - Parsons's apprentice cut stalks for us.

N. Locke.-

Cutting
stalks.
Sellon &
his boys.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 14th. One hand was employ'd with the team at harrowing. Mr. Sellon & three of his boys work'd with us at cutting stalks - Wrote a letter to brother Jonas answering that which I receiv'd from his on the 5th. of July. In this letter I have inform'd that I could not pay that dept which he spoke of, in his, of the 12th of June. (See p. 118) I t treats chiefly on political matters. -

A letter
written
to Jonas.-

Last of the
wheat sown

THURSDAY SEPT. 15th. Sow'd the last wheat that I intend to sow this season, had 2 teams by means of Godfrey's horse.

134
Situation
of the
fields.
Method us'd
in sowing

This field contains 2 acres and had spring grain on it the last season - consisting principally of flax. On such ground I usually get good wheat, it needs but one plowing before the seed is scatter'd on it. The method I have us'd in fixing my ground and manner of getti ng in the seed is the same as was practis'd last year.

right
(See p.116
July 25)
No. of bus.
of wheat
sown.

I have sown two fields with wheat this year - the one N. W. of the house (p. 118 Ju'y 5th) wrong) which, including the flax-ground, contains about 6½ acres - the other, containing about 5 acres lies S. of the house - adjoining Mr. Brown's farm. - It is not a verry sure piece on account of its being verry much expos'd to the N. W. winds. See p. 118 Tues'y July 5th.

Norton's
seed-wheat
How much
ground. -

Capt. Norton took 10 bushels of seed-wheat, which I had previously promis'd him. - Good weather, but quite warm. -

This season I have sown about 17 bushels of wheat.

134 Have us'd rather more than three bushels of plaister & wanted more. - See p. 60 Sept. 18.

FRIDAY SEPT. 16th. I was not able to work any to-day on account of ill health. - A field of 2 acres in the N. meadow was sow'd with rye by my father & harrow'd in by Hiram. Father when he had done sowing - spent the remainder of the day at diging potatoes. - Ira and N. Locke were in the cornfield at cutting, binding & setting up corn-stalks.

Two acres of rye sown by my Father N. Locke

Wind fresh in the S. and some rainy toward night.-

SATURDAY SEPT. 17th. During the present week I have receiv'd many pressing applications for seed-wheat - many of which I put off but to some I was oblig'd to give way. To Mr. Weeks I have promis'd 5 bushels - To Judge Robinson 7 bushels - 2 of which he receiv'd to-day and Mr. Wilcox had 1½ buhl. - amounting in the whole number sold or promis'd this week - to 22½ bhls. - seed-wheat for terms see p. 25th.. Threshing wheat with horses - our principle business. - Showery - warm weather - wind S. - Have work'd Godfrey's horse since the 6th. instant 4½ days.

Seed-wheat

SUNDAY SEPT. 18th. Went to meeting but heard no preaching

Warm & cloudy - wind South. -

MONDAY SEPT. 19th. With much trouble I winnow'd 13 bushels of wheat 12 of which were made fit for seed. Mr. Weeks receiv'd 7 bus'l of it - and Judge Robinson 5 more - which makes 7 bushels in the all the latter gentleman has had of me. Toping corn was the employment of the boys during the whole day - & my own in the P. M.

Pretty warm & high wind (hig) in the S. A furious storm of rain came on about sunset and lasted about an hour & a half - attended with considerable thunder. Early in the morning I sent for Capt. Norton's fanning-mill; but after I had got it I found the wind answer'd my purpose better than that, so it was not us'd. -

A storm

TUESDAY SEPT. 20th. As it was a verry rainy day & nothing of more advantage could be done - it was concluded to spent the day at threshing - which was accordingly done with horses. - Receiv'd a written message from Mr. Isaac Sheldon of Pawlet - requesting me to pay 2 notes which he held against brother Jonas - the one of 13½ dollars & the other of 4 dollars - but I did not comply with his request, because I did not consider myself under any obligation whatever to pay it. See p. 119 - half way from the top) The young man who bro't me the letter & notes from Shelden was returning from a journey

Shelden's letter - p. 119

134 to the sea-coast - on his way to Pawlet. - I believe his name is Reed. Much rain is has fallen to-day. -

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 21st.

135 Winnow'd wheat in the forepart of the day and then enter'd the cornfield and assited the boys at cutting cornstalks - finish'd the business near the end of the day. - I posess all the stalks in the field - when I let the (corn) - (6 acres) to Waters & Parsons, I reserv'd them. (vide p. 104 at the bot'm) Mr. Willard Green bought 2 bushels of seed-wheat of me. Verry cold - high wind N. W. -

Toping stalks) land finish'd)

THURSDAY SEPT. 22d.

Bound & set up the stalks which were cut down yesterday which took up a considerable part of the day. The other part of it was spent in arranging matters about our hogs. - Ira bro't a load of boards from Brown's mill - he had the misfortune to break the reaches of his waggon - which hinder'd him so much that he could bring but one load - see june 6th. p.112 Mr. Montague came to me to buy some seed-wheat - after entreating me a long time to trust him for the money a few days - without any effect; he went to Mr. Joshua Gates & procur'd an order from him to the amount of 8 dollars & 75 cents on a note which he holds against me. Montague receives the amount of this order in seed-wheat at 7/6 per bushels. -

A verry cold frosty night - The frost - a verry severe one. -

Drawing boards. -

Montague purchases seed-wheat.

FRIDAY SEPT. 23d.

Diging potatoes our business at home - Ira brought 2 loads of boards from Brown's mill. Cloudy wind S. -

Boards from Brown's) mill. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 24th.

Ira, this A. M. bro't the last load of boards that I receiv'd from Ovait on the 6th of June last - p. 112. As I have receiv'd only about half the debt which he owes me - and that in board of a verry inferiour kind - I have preemptorily refus'd taking another inch of his boarss, unless they are of a better quality than those already paid to me. - Mr. Levi Smedly & his lady tarried here last evening - on his way to the N. part of this state. - Mr. Ames here also. -

Clear - but the wind blew high from the S. mild air. -

Business at home much like what it was on - 22d. Gather'd a load of corn for the purpose of feeding the swine - The first gather'd this season - in our field.-

Mr. Smedly & Mr. ames

Corn. -

SUNDAY SEPT. 25

So rainy that nobody in the family attended meeting - wind - S. - forepart of the day - Afternoon N. - and chilly. -

MONDAY SEPT. 26th

Thresh'd 320 shieves of wheat with horses

135 & winnow'd the grain. Cold squally weather - damp. -

TUESDAY SEPT. 26th. Went to town & got some blacksmithing done - Gather'd a few bushels of apples & partly rais'd the cyder-mill. - Verry cold wind high from N. W. Considerable frost last night. - Late rains have rais'd the streams a little. -

Cydermill.

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 28th. This morning finish'd raising the cyder-mill. Mr. Sellon and myself repair'd the cyder-press. Ira & Hiram gather'd apples - My father made a piece of fence to guard the S. part of the N. W. wheat-field. - He was verry much fatigu'd - the job being pretty heavy for him. - Pretty cold in the morning - but turn'd out to be a moderate - calm day. -

Sellon works here. - Gather apples.

Names of persons who bo't seed-wheat of me this fall

Seed-wheat purchasees

Mr.	Aldrich- - - - 9	Mr.	Ovait- - - - 3
--	Norton- - - - -10	--	Scott- - - - $4\frac{1}{2}$
--	Atwood- - - - - 3	--	Palmer- - - $1\frac{1}{2}$
--	Widow Billing - $2\frac{1}{2}$	--	Dewey- - - - 2
--	Wilcox- - - - - $1\frac{1}{2}$	--	J.E.Robins - 1
--	Weeks- - - - - -7	--	A. Waters- - 1
--	Greene- - - - - 2	--	S. Squire- - 1
--	J. Robinson- - -7		
--	Wood- - - - - - 3	--	Total- - - $56\frac{1}{2}$ bushels
--	Montague- - - - $7\frac{1}{2}$		

Reckon as I sold it at 125 (e) cents per bhl. amounts to 70 D. - $62\frac{1}{2}$ cts. - Almost every man pays cash - at the time of delivery or on a short credit. - Price - 1 D. 25 cts. per bhl. -

The wheat was verry good but it requir'd a strong wind to blow out the chess to made it fit for seed. -

136 Finding the following story in the Aurora of the 16th of Aug. and being much pleas'd with it, I shall give it a place in this book.

Story of the Robbers & the farmer.

The Robbers & the Farmer ----- There were formerly two robbers, who were the scourge of the country which they infested - one of them plundered (& often murdered) every one who was so unfortunate as to fall in his way on the roads or fields - The other took possession of a large lake, on the borders of which liv'd a number of manufacturers, such as blacksmiths, weavers, &c. &c., near whom our freebooters resided, though they frequently plunder'd their nearest nieghbors - on the other side of the lake lived a resspectable, peacable farmer, (for whom the robbers profess'd great friendship) who by his industry had so improv'd his land from a wildderness state, that he was enabled to send many canoe loads of pro(of)duce for sale to the people on the other side. - Now it happen'd that the lake robber became jealous of the increasing property of the farmer, (who by the bye was a good customer of his children by buying all his plows, scythes, coats, hats &c) of them, who notwithstanding the bad

136 example of their father were verry expert in making those things) to such a degree that he us'd to fire muskets loaded with balls into the boats, and several times kill'd the children of the farmer. - His reason for committing these friendly actions, was as he pretended, to search for old breeches &c., which he suspected the farmer to be guilty of conveying the land robbers people, (with whom he was at variance) or to discover some of his sons who he alleg'd had enter'd into the service of the farmer, in doing which he frequently made slaves of the old man's sons - sometimes he said he was oblig'd to rob & murder them for his own preservation, as according to his logic, the farmer carried on with the land robber's children, was injurious to him inasmuch as the children of his enemy were thereby prevented from starving. - This doctrine was rather too absur'd to be assented to by the farmer, who tho' a plain old fellow, had too much spirit to submit to such notions - he therefore forbid any of the armed boats of the water robber - from coming near his house, or receiving any provisions from them until he behaved in a more peaceable manner - our waterman now came openly forward, and declar'd that he would take every canoe belonging to the farmer that he found going to the the other side - he would, however, permit him, as a great favor to send a boat to a small spot in the lake, where the farmer us'd to buy his sugar and coffee, and then he was only to be allow'd to buy sufficient for his own family use -the land robber finding his opponent's measures began to affect himself and children, in order to counteract them, swore that if he caught the farmer's people going to or from, (the) or even looking towards the pirates house, or were seen talking with him, he would plunder them whenever he could meet them. These unfair proceedings the farmer perceiv'd if would, persisted in, involve his family in the dispute, and in the end perhaps cause their ruin. He therefore determin'd to keep his children at home, and as they were ingenious & industrious, he knew they would be able to make for themselves all those articles which they had formerly purchas'd at great risk from their enemies children and neighbors. This wise and peaceable conduct was much oppos'd by a few silly servants, and some interested visitors in the old man's family; but he had the satisfaction in the end, to find that his measures were well planned, and approv'd by all candid people at home and abroad; for the two robbers experiencing greater distresseses every, in consequences of the farmer's wise measures, finding that he would not be impos'd upon, that the produce of his farm was necessary to their existance, and that if they persisted in their unjust notions, the farmer would soon require
137 none of (those) none of the products of the labor of their children, they determin'd that in future the trade of the farmer should be restricted by no other than the laws of reason. - The consequence was, that farmer's plantation prosper'd to a great degree, and those who had most loudly complain'd against his con-

duct were oblig'd to confess that it was dictated by principles of reason and humanity. -

THURSDAY SEPT. 29th. Dug potatoes in the A. M. - P. M. gather'd

Gather potatoes & apples &c.

apples in the young orchard - the rain came on toward night and oblig'd us to quit the orchard, nevertheless we soon had business enough, because bad weather at this season of the year, affords the farmer no time to rest - when he is not in his field he can go to his barn & there work at a verry profitable rate, by threshing out his grain - in this manner we spent the remainder of the day - having nearly finish'd(ng) stamping with horses a flooring of about 160 wheat-shieves - The wind - strong from the S. Damp - cloudy & some rainy in the P. M. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 30th. Winnow'd & measur'd the grain thresh'd

Grain & Apples

last, (6 busls). besides getting off the straw, which is a considerable job when it has been beaten by horses this done in the A. M. - P. M. gather'd apples with the boys in the y'g orchard - business that they have done thro'out the day. - Pleasant wind South. -

Summary of the month

Since the biginning of this month there have been various changes in the weather - being sometimes verry warm & pleasant and at other times cold & rainy - but to speak generally it has been a wet month. About the 21st the cold was verry severe for the season, that night we had a smart frost which injur'd corn materially and since that time frosts have not been unfrequent. We have usually made cyder in this month, but not having a great deal to make this season and the apples being rather out of season about getting ripe - that business has been defer'd till next month. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1st Diging potatoes - the principal business - wind strong from the S. and great signs of rain. -

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2d. Went to meeting only in the A. M. on account of the badness of the weather - which was moderatly rainy and rather cool. - Had no minister. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 3d. Gather'd apples - Good weather. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 4th. Ira & Hiram did little else but attend training.

Parsons buys (his) of corn my share of the corn he planted in May. -

I have sold to Mr. Parsons my share of the field which he planted last may - including the potatoes & beans - for the sum of 15 dollars. The top stalks belong to me. He cuts his corn up by the roots & I find him team (to) & waggon to draw it to his house in the bargain - I was under the necessity of letting Parsons have my old span this A. M. on that account - this I found afterwards brought me into trouble - or in fact

137 A young mare is put in the cyder mill but refuses to go. -

most of the time that I was oblig'd to do without my usual team horses. Having apples enough here at my mill, belonging to Dr. Swift, to make a cheese & having hir'd Mr. Sellon to make the cyder. (for) I put my young mare into the mill, but it was not long before she refus'd to go - we then, after finding other means had no effect, plied her smartly with the lash - at this, she started back and broke the poll to which she was tied. By this time I was not a little heated with passion. - I was determin'd that she should go - After she had broken two or three polls and show'd much ill will, I took her out of the gears & gave her a verry severe dressing and then put her in again & she went off as well as any horse. Some business or other call'd me away so that I was oblig'd to leave her under Mr. Sellon's care. When

138 When I return'd I found her (still) sullen and unwilling to stir a step - My anger was rais'd to a verry high pitch - and I suppose I was not verry merciful to the beast - Having tried in in vain to make her go of (th) her own accord - as the only means I could use, I took her by the bridle and went before her - in this way she would go. As soon as Parsons had done using my old horses I turn'd out my colt & put in one of them - and had no further trouble. My forenoon's work was as tedious as I ever did. P. M. gather'd a few winter apples. The early part of the day was verry fine but soon after sunrise it began to grow cloudy - wind S. - rain'd some at night. -

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5th. Finish'd (the) diging potatoes in the field, N. E. of the house. This day bro't on more plagues and hindrances which greatly harrass'd my mind. About noon as Mr. Sellon & the boys were screwing down the cheese, one of the posts gave way at the bottom where it had rotted off. - Mr. Sellon is a verry good hand to repair any such difficulty - we therefore immediately set about the business and finish'd (b) it by moon light - in such a manner that it will endure service for a considerable time. - We were verry dilligent the whole time. - In the evening Mr. Sellon par'd apples for our people with a machine. - - - Tolerable kind of weather. -

Cyder-press broken. -

THURSDAY OCTOBER 6th. Began diging potatoes at the N. E. corner of my cornfield and the potatoes on the E. end and half of those that grew on S. End. - The weather proving Verry rainy in the P. M. - our work in the field was suspended, but the boys went into the barn and thersh'd rye, & I went to town and got some work done at Major Norton's - late in the evening before I reach'd home. -

Cold and stormy in the P. M. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 7th. This day I have work'd under many disadvantages,

138 but notwithstanding - had tolerable success - husk'd a load of corn in the A. M. and got the remaining potatoes in the field P. M. Parsons clear'd his field of every thing and carried off two rows of of potatoes on the N. side of my field which I sold to him for work.
Cloudy - chilly - squally - uncumfortable weather - wind N. W.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8th. Gather'd a small load of corn in the morning - & gather'd winter apples during the other parts of the day. Waters with my waggon and team drew rather more than half his corn to my barn - where he intends husking it out as soon as he can get what remains in the field bro't to the same heap. Good weather for any kind of business on a farm.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 9th. The weather proving rather lowery - none of our people attended meeting. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 10th. Winnow'd a small quantity of rye in the morning - spent the greater part of the day in gathering apples. Wind strong from the S. cloudy - air mild. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 11th. Our chief employment was picking apples to lay up for winter. Waters clear'd his field of all that belong'd to him which did not include the top stalks, the potatoes that grew in the field amounted to 27 bushels the half of which Adam purchas'd of me for a shilling per bushel. Waters at night made a husking - which drew in a number of young men and boys and a few oldish men who with few exceptions were employ'd verry dilligently till the whole was finish'd which was about 12 in the evening. Waters had my team & waggon to do this days work with - as was agreed upon when he took the ground to plant. Weather much like yesterday - wind high in the S. -

Winter-apples. Waters having finish'd cutting up his corn, makes a husking.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12th. I exerted myself in the forepart of the day as much as I ever did in my life to get the husks of Waters's corn secur'd - which was happily effected by 2 in the P. M.

139 I felt the more anxious because by the appearance of the weather it seem'd verry likely to set into a long rain - which would do our fodder great damage if left in the situation it was before it was stack'd. Ira and Hiram were busied until nearly or quite noon in drawing away the top stalks which (grew on the) grew on the ground that Parsons and Waters planted. When they had done this, (those stalks were also stack'd) they assisted about stacking the husks or bottom stalks - Waters also help'd us some, he being there dividing the corn. - In the P. M. the clouds broke away and our fears

The husks of Waters's corn taken care of.

139 of a storm vanish'd.

We were finally pretty fortunate at the close of the day, for (Waters) all the corn was divided & Waters with my team took home about two thirds of his part and we sorted and carried into the chamber 20 bushels of ours - The quality of this grain is spoken at page 143 which see. - It has been my intention to sow the ground which I let to Parsons and Waters, for some time; and I have this day began to plow it - Isaac Godfrey and one of his horses and one of mine have been plowing there. - In the A. M. it was verry windy and a little rainy - the wind did not abate but came strongly from the S. all day. - Some of the time the heat was verry burthensome - at other times the wind (wind) would come pretty fresh and render the air cool so that to one who labor'd hard it prov'd quite uncumfortable.

No news-paper

We have receiv'd no paper from Mr. Smead's office for 2 weeks.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 13th.

Plowing for rye Godfrey

Two teams were employ'd in the field spoken of yesterday - Godfrey and Ira were engag'd here. Myself and the old gentleman were busy in the orchard. Parsons' 'Thaniel work'd here in the P. M. Clear - but pretty cool at night - Rain'd in the night of yester day. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 14th.

Sow rye

This A. M. I sow'd nearly 6 acres of ground with nearly the same number of bushels of rye and the same teams which were on the ground yesterday harrow'd so much of it that it may be finish'd tomorrow before noon. - Father and Hiram went up the mountain and bro't down each of them a back load of hoop (pool) poles - P. M. we gather'd apples in the young orchard. Pleasant & warm - wind S. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 15th.

Sowing finish'd Flax taken up

The boys finish'd off the harrowing of that field which I sow'd yesterday - (see p. 139) P. M. - took up the flax, it being pretty well rotted, of which there are 168 duble-band bundles - Clear'd the young orchard of its fruit. - At the close of this business my father took his pole and basket to go over such parts of the (the) orchard as we tho't had been entirely finish'd, but he found 4 or 5 trees which were overlook'd thro' mistake. He was much displeas'd to think that so much must have been lost if he had not made search and found them - The trees were small & the apples soon gather'd. - Fair - mild and some cloudy wind S. -

Godfrey's affairs

Godfrey has done 3 day's work for me this week and I have also had 3 day's work of his horse - which he particularly disir'd me to remenber. - The late piece of sowing I have done makes in all that I have sown this fall 19 acres of ground.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16th.

Went to Church but heard no preaching

139 wind high in the South & some rain was bro't with it.-

MONDAY OCTOBER 17th. The wetness and unsteadiness of the weather made our business quite broken. Finish'd diging a few potatoes which were in the nursery & garden - gather'd some few bushels of apples - got three hogsheads up out of the cellar and prepar'd them and other caks to be fill'd with cyder - Went to town in the P. M. In my absecnce Ira & Hiram nearly finish'd tearing down and old hovel which stood at the E. end of the barn.

Hovel torn down

140 Reprot of Tichenor's election.-

Whilst I was in town it was reported that Mr. Tichenor is elected governor for the ensueing year. Quite rainy - chilly winds from the N. W. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 18th. This day we made the first cyder that (th) has been extracted from our own apples, this year. Ira laid up the cheese - Hiram ground the apples. My business was to provide casks to put the cyder in - and gathering apples. - An accident happen'd which hinder'd my work and prov'd some injury to us too. Waters's apprentices having been in to the woods to get a load of wood, found a dead sheep lately kill'd - Soon after they had inform'd me of it, the flock was brot up and counted - found 1 missing - I went and found the sheep in question (which belong to our flock) - bro't it home and dress'd it. - This is the tenth sheep we have lost by dog butchers since the month of July - 1807 - p.46.-

Begin to make cyder of my own apples - see 4th.Oct.

Another sheep kill'd by dogs. - Dec. 27th. 1807. -

Chilly - wind N. W. Verry cold in the evening. -

In consequence of certain inteligence being receiv'd in town of Mr. Tichenor being elected Governor of the state of Vermont. - There was wonderful rejoicing among the federalists - which was demonstrated by firing the great gun - beating the drum & playing the fife. - It is by no means a matter of rejoicing to me or my party - it is the result of federal misrepresentation - next year the republicans will rally and defeat the federal cause in this state - No paper has been or will be issued from the press in this town this week - on that account we depend on private information for news from the assembly. - We shall in all probability receive a paper next week from the Bennington office which will instruct us what the situation of our state concern is. -

Great joy manifested by our feds on account of Gov,Tich.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19th. We had our girls out gathering apples chiefly for using in the house. - My work was sometimes in the orchard - & sometimes running cyder into the cellar in spouts which emptied themselves into hogsheads. - Freezing weather last night but pleasant to-day.

Mr. Sellons horse was taken in to pasture on Saturday last.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19th. Finish'd the business of gathering apples. - The females were out again to-day. - The house narrow-

140 Complete the business of gathering apples. The house narrowly escapes taking fire.

ly, escap'd taking fire in the following manner. - Verry early in the morning my father got up and made a fire in the kitchen and went back into his own room where he fell into a drowse. - In a little time after, he perceiv'd a light under the door which led into the kitchen and concluded by that & a disagreeable smell - that something was wrong. - On his going into the kitchen he found that a brand of fire had tip'd off from the andirons into a basket of wool (which lean'd against a chair that it might dry) which it had consum'd and considerably injur'd the chair. - He soon put out the fire and probably sav'd the house from being wrapt in flames. Pleasant - wind S. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 20th. Ira & Hiram made cyder. In the A. M. I work'd over (mg) Maj'r. Nortons barrels to fit them in some measure for being fill'd with cyder. P. M. work'd in the cornfield at pulling beans. - Raw & chilly in the morning - but pleasant & middling warm the rest of the day. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22d. Pretty early in the morning bro't home a load of beans from the corn-field. As soon as he could be fix'd off, Ira was sent to Mr. Palmer's with two barrels of cyder & a few (a) winter-apples; from thence he (p) would have proceeded to Brown's mill and bro't home a load of plank, but the bridge being gone at Jewett's and the weather being rough he turn'd about and reach'd home about noon. Toward the end of the day Ira took a load of Maj'r Norton's cyder to him. - My business was threshing beans & taking care of the cyder press. - Had a verry rough S. E. storm of wind & rain. -

141 SUNDAY OCTOBER 23d. Attended meeting and was entertain'd with Mr. Marshe's preaching - Mr. Marsh having lately return-'d from a visit on Long-Island. - My son is this day 20 years of age being 26 years & 3 months younger than his father. - Air damp & chilly - wind N. W. -

Rough weather. -

Harvesting corn in the field.

MONDAY OCTOBER 24 to OCTOBER 27th. The weather being verry favorable - was deeply engag'd in harvesing my corn. - On - - - FRIDAY OCTOBER 28. Nothing was done in the fied on account of the badness of the weather which had receiv'd a great chang the preceding night which produc'd a flurry of snow - which made the winds blew verry cold and searching - therefore my father and I went to work and rais'd a scaffold over the S. part of the barn-floor on which we intend to lay our corn. - - This morning Ira carri'd a load of cyder to Maj'r Norton and Mr. Church and went to mill.

Money from Capt.Norton.

Last Monday - receiv'd 12 dollars of money of Capt J. Norton due for wheat. - This week Mr. Sellon made cyder for me of apples bro't here by Dr. Swift.

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Sellon's work. -

Col. Fay and Dr. Lyman which were all put into one cheese - and each man took his share of cyder according to the number of apples that he put in - whole number of barrels Sellon tells me was

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29th. The last night was verry cold and the ground this morning solidly frozen. Soon after the sun was up the wind began and continu'd to blow pretty strongly from the S. - and was verry searching and cold. The day prov'd cloudy & squally - but by degrees the air grew warmer toward the end of the day. - We gather'd corn to-day - but it was far from being a delightful kind of business. - The frost coming out of the ground made it verry muddy & cold under foot. Ira did no husking - but went with the team - drawing home - top-stalks and the corn that we pick'd. Hiram borrow'd a newspaper of Dr. Swift yes'y which contain'd the governor's speech - What he said of the embargo measure was verry displeasing to me. - I believe there was information enough for all reasonable people to make them sensible of the necessity of the law & of its being strictly adher'd to. - But the federalists have by every means in their power attempted to darken that information & made the people think that their best statesmen are traitors who are endeavoring by their late measures to bring the nation under the control of the emporor of France. - Now our great or leading federalists do not believe this story, but they are verry willing that their followers should think they do, so as to give stronger evidence to such as are sincere and hearty in believing every thing that is put upon them. - Thank fortune our house of repsentatives are democratic once more - tho' by a smaller majority than usual - this is not to be wonder'd at when we consider the amazing exertions of the tory party during the whole electioneering campaign. - Nothing as yet has been done by the federal party but that may be undone. - The republicans are in great hopes of seeing every thing put a-right next year. -

Remarks on the Gov. speech. -

SUNDAY OCTOBER 30th. Sky pretty pleasant but the air was sharp and chilly wind N. W. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 31st. Clear'd my cornfield was clear'd of every thing worth saving. - The produce of the field is spoken of p. 143.

Corn-harvest finish-'d. -

Had Edmond & Nathaniel Locke - and Girdon Griswold. - and Mr. Bald of Wilmington, who I hir'd Wednesday morning to work here to-day - My hands having become verry soor thro' the incessant labor at husking last week I went with the team - A cold - frosty morning but pleasant & warm day.

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Review of the month.

October has had all kinds of weather - from verry pleasant to verry rough and uncumfortable - but we have had a greater proportion of the latter - so that on the whole it is not out of the way to say that it

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has been an unpleasant month. - There have been two pretty severe frosts. - Trees were entirely strip'd of their leaves early in the month. - I am so fortunate as to be at the end of my harvesting. -

TUESDAY NOV'R. 1st. Paid Mr. Bald for the work which he did for me last week & yesterday. - Ira went over to Browns mill and bro't home 45 feet of plank - (hemlock) for a floor to the horse stable. I went to town doing errands. Hiram dug the sauce in the garden & assisted his grand-father about sorting out corn. - Good weather. -

Plank from Brown's mill. -

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 2d. Ira & Hiram put up an apple cheese of 120 bushels of apples - I was in Troy this night more will be said to-morrow. - Warm & pleasant. -

THURSDAY NOV'R. 3d. Return'd from Troy - When I went to that place this time it was in the company of Mr. Parson who provided the waggon & Isaac Godfrey who provided one horse - the other horse was put in by me. My business was only to purchase a few necessary articles to use in the family or perhaps it might be more proper to call them luxuries except salt - as tea - Mollasses &c besides a few panes of glass and 7 lb. nails - which are far from being luxurious. - The amount of what (I) money I laid out at this time is.

Journey to Troy & observations on the place. S. 12 July p - 122. -

Settlement with J. E. Wool.

Settled accounts with Mr. John E. Wool & paid him his due which was 2D - 16ct. He at present holds no demand against me.

They appear'd to be doing business pretty livly at the village. - Wheat was coming in plentifully at the rate of D -1-25 per bushel - and I have less complaint against the embargo then when I was there in the summer - however there may be as much uneasiness among them on that account as there ever was - for I was so much engag'd about my own affairs that I had no time to converse with any body about other concerns - One thing mades people more peaceable about the times. the elections are over & ther is no electioneering to be done, and the people are left to think for themselves. - Warm & smokey - wind S. -

FRIDAY NOV'R. 4th. Put down a flooring of plank (to) in the horse-stable -. Gave Ira & Hiram (a) that cheese which was put on to the press last wednesday to get what they could out of it. - About they went to work upon it - giving it another grinding perhaps by night they had run half of it thro' the mill. -

Smokey - warm weather - tho' the morning was chilly & foggy. -

SATURDAY NOV. 5th. Ira & Hiram had no other business but

142 their own. - They finish'd grinding over their punice about 1 in the P. M. & got it under the screws some time before night.

Highway business See May 25-26 p. 107-108. - My duty as surveyor of highways oblig'd me to work on the road to-day though my tour had been work'd out in May last. Those that were out at this time did not work out the whole of their road tax last spring - and what they have now done will be (credid) credited to them. - Mended that bridge E. of Mr. Jewetts and repair'd the main road in several places by throwing out the loose stones &c My labor was for Mr. E. Fay jun'r. who is to come and help me butcher for it. -

Fore part of the day foggy & cloudy - P. M. more pleasant - warm for the season. -

143 SUNDAY NOV'R. 5th. This day attended public worship without any minister Mr. Marsh being indispos'd with the rheumatism so as not be able to discharge the duties of the day. -

Verry foggy & chilly. - wind N. E. -

Last time of gringing apples. - Church's Cyder. MONDAY NOV. 7th. Ira & Hiram made up the last batch of apples for cyder that we have this season - bushels about 110 - I carried Mr. Hills* & Marshes cyder to them (*Cyrus) - *Church's cyder) bro't home some barrels for Hill - pull'd turnips - The boys with that punice which I gave them on Friday yielded 2 barrels of whole cyder & about the same quantity of water cyder. - Verry smokey in the forepart of the day, but it was chilly in the forepart of the day. -

TUESDAY NOV'R. 8th. We only attended to our cyder and other small matters - Warm smokey & cloudy - sun red as scarlet - wind S. -

A Cheese ground over again.- WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 9th. Reground that punice which (whic) which was put on the press last Monday - accomplish'd the business time enough to make a beginning of drawing away the manure from the barn, with a horse-cart. I find that it is a better way than one who is unacquainted (wh) with it at first would imagine to get out dung - Good weather. -

Drawing manure. - on what ground THURSDAY NOV. 10th. 'till Saturday the 12th employ'd Ira - team & 2 waggons at drawing dung on to a part of the N. meadow bounded on the W. by the steep rocks in the (sp) sheep-pasture - containing about 4 acres. - We shall be able to manure but about half of it this fall - what remains undone will be finish'd next spring It is contemplated to plant it with corn another season - See June 25 - p. 116.

As to my corn this year it can only be call'd a middling crop - From eight acres we get about 200 bushels. - The amount of what was unfit to grind can

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The corn & its quality & quantity

only be guess'd at - perhaps it may be equal to 38 bushels of hard corn. - The kind we planted requires a longer & wetter season on such land as it grew (on) than it did last season (was), - it grew pretty uneven - for, on some parts of the field almost every hill produc'd good corn - while in other parts quite the reverse would happen - the corn being in short ears & the kernels on them having verry little substance in them. - In the S. W. part of the field the soil is of a black muck - here I expected the heaviest corn - but it turn'd out to be (quite) pretty ordinary - the cause I attribute to the dry weather in August & an untimely frost which happen'd on the 22d of Sept. - other parts were affected by it, but not to such a degree. - I am apt to think if the land had been properly manur'd it would have produc'd a handsome crop - Corn in this vicinity is generally of a quality & verry plenty. - If I had stor'd my share of Parsons's corn which was 17½ s'd corn - with what I had of Waters (30 more) The whole would make about 247 bushels - fit to grind - See p. 74 Nov'r. 11 - 1807. - No of bushels of potatoes estimated at 200. - Our garden roots grew to a good size - except turnips which were ordinary indeed - We had 5 bushels of onions. - The cabbages produced by our garden are not many in number & of an inferior quality - The winter grain that I have sown this fall except the rye sown in October carries a promising appearance - the wheat is so forward that we have turn'd our sheep up on it to feed it down. - From the commencement of this month till the present time the weather has been exceedingly favorable for all kinds of out door work - I shall now attempt to make a statement of the quantity cyder I have made the present year & how much I have sold & to whom. Price of cyder - $1.-50 -

The soil on which it grew. -

Garden vegetables

Winter grain of this season's growth.

Cyder - how much & names of the purchasers & quantity each of them had.

Names	barrels	Kind of pay
Martin Norton- - - -	8 barrels	Blacksmithing
Cyrus Hill- - - - -	4	Carding
Micah J. Lyman- - -	-3	By his store.
	15	Carried to p. 144

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Names of persons who purchas'd cyder of me this fall $1.50cts. per bbl.

bro't over -	15-	from p. 143
Waite Church- - - -	3	Hat s
James Hicks- - - - -	2	Saddlery
Jesse Field- - - - -	1	Cash
Daniel Marsh- - - - -	-2 & 1 water'd	- Preaching
Adam Waters- - - - -	1	Making shoes
Luther Bliss- - - - -	-1	Ramsay's life of Wash'n
Loan Dewey- - - - - -	-1)	Cyder brandy (in boards
Paul Howze- - - - - -	-1)	Cyder brandy (valu'd $3.
Turner & Brown- - - -	-2	Hemlock plack
Stephen Harwood- - -	2	Coopering
Chatfield Parsons- -	1	Making shoes
Timothy Palmer- - - -	-1 & 1 water'd	Weaving
Samuel Sellon- - - -	3	In making cyder

144 Jonathan Hunt- - - - 1 In some way or other
Total sold 37 & 2 of water cyder,
To which may be added 12 for our own drink -
and for making aple sauce 4
Making in all about 53 barrels - the produce of our own orchard - At the above price it amounts to D55-50cts. - but the quantity sold this year amounts to little more than half of what was sold last year from our press, but the quality & price are much superior. Our apples were so small - dry & grew so (cs) scattering about the orchard that it requir'd more patience & labor to gather them than it has done for many seasons before. - I have sold but few apples because we had scarcely enough fit for winter to lay up for ourselves - there being in both houses only about 45 bushels to serve us 'till next spring - Major Noton was at the expence of gathering the few that he bo't here at - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1/0 per bushel 14 bl.

Apples - how many sav'd for winter & how many sold. -

Mr. Hunt- - - - - - - - - - - - -	-20 per bush'l	4
C. Parsons- - - - - - - - - - -	20 per ditto	6
T. Palmer - Gather & carri'd to him	1/3 per do	3
J. Field- - - - - - - - - - - -	1/0 per do	8
At the rates mention'd they come to $5.62½ ¢)	Total	33

Aggregate sum. -

The value of the produce of the orchard sold in the present year amounts to $61.12½ cents. -

Of the stock - We possess 11 Cows
(4 Twoyearsolds
Horned cattle (11 yearlings
(9 calves
35 h'd (5 Horses - 3 fit for service
The flock (60 Sheep

Cattle - horses and sheep. 7th May p. 103

Fodder - how many tons. -

I estimate the fodder on which these are to subsist, to be equal to (fifty) 48 tons* of hay - of which 36 tons are clear hay the rest being loose fodder such as cornstalks straw & husks.

Price of the wheat sold to Norton & Aldrich

The time expires this day that I had to fix on a price for wheat which I sold to Capt. Norton & Mr. Aldrich. They were to give me the market price given in Troy or Albany between the 15th of September & the 10th of November, - Wheat has been up to 11/3d yk currency in Troy - but as it stood so only a short time, I took no advantage of it & have agreed to take what has been a steady price - $1-25 cts. per bhl - both of them had 19 bushels. See Sept.- 28th p. 135. -

Beef

I shall not be able to put off any beef this year - so far from it that I shall not be supplied with a sufficient quantity for my own family - our dependence for this kind of provision is placed on a young steer aged 2 years. - - See Dec. 28th 1807. -

Pork

Of swine we have an abundant supply - there being no less than 27 of them of all sizes - See - p. 150 - Dec.26th

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145 MONDAY NOV.) SUNDAY NOV. 13th. So stormy that we tho't it too

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Rainy
Mrs. Waters arrives here

tedious to admit of going to church - therefore none of our people turn'd out. Mrs. Waters & her son Worthy with his sister Polly arriv'd here from Connecticut (last ev) about 11 A. M.
Strong winds from S. E. with considerable rain. -

MONDAY NOV'R. 14th. Until Tuesday P. M. our work met with no change or interuption - being the same as that of Saturday - but on Tuesday P. M. 3 o'clock - having been verry lowery in the two preceding days - it began to snow pretty fast which (make) made us quit work & retire to the house - to spend the remainder of the day. At night the cows were tied & fodder'd in the barn - as if it had been the month of January. - Many flocks (hav) of wild-geese have been seen within two or three days. -

Snow

Wild geese

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 16th. The storm which began yesterday continu'd thro' the night & a considerable part of this day - so that no business was by me or my people out on the farm.

Accounts settled with A. Waters - found enoneous - but corrected.

I compar'd accounts with Adam Waters & found his due three dollars - but in the evening when I was at home I found two or three important articles which he has had of me were not included in the account - not having been charg'd.

THURSDAY NOV'R. 17th. Our wood being all or nearly consum'd - we made our only business to go in to the woods & get three or four small loads to answer our present demand for it - Cloudy & chilly wind N. -

FRIDAY NOV18th. The Cyder-mill was taken down & put under cover - and a waggon shelter erected. - The snow melts off but slowly - at (was) first coming it was between three & four inches in depth in open land. - Chilly - spashy weather. -

Snow -how deep. -

SATURDAY NOV'R. 19th. Went to mill - got up some wood & settled accounts with Adam Waters - indebted to me $12-25cts. Chilly - searching winds from the North. -

SUNDAY NOV'R. 20th. I labor'd under a severe indisposition occasion'd by a great cold - but was relief'd from it in a considerable degree toward the close of the day.- Rather rainy - None of my people went to Church. - The air was chilly & the wind blew high from the S. -

Verry sick.-

MONDAY NOV'R. 21st. On Saturday I made a new settlement with A. Waters - who readily admitted the articles that I bro't

145 in - & found him indebted to me $12-25cts. - A blunder - this was enter'd on Saturday. - This morning I found my sickness had nearly left me. - Carried mother in a Waggon up to Mr. Mellen's in the N. part of the town - went to mill - came home about 1 P. M. Repair'd the sheds round the barn-yeard. -

School begins See Dec. 1807

Our school in the S. district is begun this day by Mr. Bingham. The school-meeting happen'd on the evening of the 7th of the present month - and was conducted with more candor & greater unanimity than at any time before these many years. -

Mild & warm - Cloudy & smokey. -

Dunning letter from M. Robinson jun'r.

Receiv'd a duning letter from Capt. M. Robinson on Saturday - I shall endeavor to comply with his request as soon as possible. -

TUESDAY NOV'R. 22d.

The affairs of Capt. Norton's diging stones on this farm -how settled

Before I relate what I have done to-day - it will be necessary for me to state some circumstances respecting an affair that caus'd me to do it - On the first day of this month I had business in the S. part of the town & on my return Capt. Norton hail'd me at his shop & asked the privilege of diging stones for (st) a cellar-wall (wt) on some part of the farm - which I readily granted, but he nor I did not name any particul spot where he should dig - till I had proceeded several rods from him - when he said some thing about the pasture - I made no reply, and being in haste to get home, no more was said about it at that time - The impression on my mind then was that

146 Capt. Norton being then much engaged about his work in the shop he would not get time to dig before I should see him and tell him where he should go to get the stones. - When I work'd on the road - Saturday - Nov'r. 5th. - he inform'd me he had been diging stones in my W. pasture - I told him I had not intended that he should have taken them there, because I wanted them for walling - but that he might now take away what he had dug - and not get any more at that place; I did not then understand how many there were of them, or I should not have given him such an answer - Last Thursday seeing his team drawing them away I went to Young John who went with the team & told him not to get any more of them away - adding that I would dig as many more on some other part of the farm - Accordingly the principale part of my business was digging stone from a ledge a few rods S. W. of the upper corner of the young orchard - for Capt. Norton - Ira had trouble with his teeth - was oblig'd to go to Mr. Clark & get one of them drawn - his time was taken up in mending up old harnesses - Air quite warm & mild in the A. M. but the S. wind blew up verry fresh - made it chilly & brought on a rain in the evening. -

WEDNESDAY NOV 23d.

The same kind of work was done again - with more hands - I went on with 2 & Capt. Norton came on with two more. He lik'd the stones verry much - and I believe is perfectly satisfied with what I have

146 done. I suppose this day's work over pays him for the work which he did in diging the stones in the W. pasture - but I am confident that he will do what is right towards me. - Isaac Godfrey hir'd my waggon & one horse to go to Pittstown meeting-house. - He went away yesterday & arriv'd here this P. M.

I. Godfrey hires my waggon. -

Wind N. W. air growing cooler. - Much rain fell during the night which caus'd the snow to be nearly all of it dissolov'd except on the mountains - Rivers & brooks are rais'd. -

The President's message was receiv'd last week. -

Thursday Nov'r. 24th. Repair'd the barn where the boards had been pull'd off & other pieces of work done preparetory for winter. - Ira & Hiram with horses stamp'd out the barley. -

Quite cold

Cold - rough weather - wind N. -

FRIDAY NOV. 25th. The chamber of the horse-stable was fill'd with hay - the barley winnow - measur'd (10 bhl) & sent by Ira to the malsters - but to our surprise it was bro't back again - Haynes concluding never to malt any more. -

Barley thresh'd and measur'd. -

Paid Moses Robinson jun'r by the hand of brother Ira twelve dollars. - Capt. Norton & Mr. Aldrich have paid me up for the seed wheat that they bo't of me this fall. - page (119) th 125. -

Payment to M. Robinson jun'r. Norton & Aldrich pay up for seed wheat.

Mr. Marks took up his lodgings here last night he entertain'd us in the evening with a few good stories - one in particular which he related of a british-officer, taken by himself a few others in the company of & disguis'd in the habit of tories. -

Mr. Marks & story told by him. -

Weather like yesterday. -

SATURDAY NOV'R. 26th. Ira with my waggon - one of my horses with one of Mr. Sellon's was employ'd in his service - while he with my assistance fix'd the N. room fire - place with a new back to it - in order to bring the fire forward so as to give out more heat (it) in to the room. - Mr. Sellon said what Ira had done was all he should have for his day's work. - Hiram thresh'd out & put up a couple of bushels of rye which he would have carried had it not been so cold, for the weather was verry rough & cold the wind blowing pretty (bl) briskly from the N. W. Traveling render'd difficult by being frozen hard in a verry rough & uneven posture.

Mason work done by Sellon & work done by Ira. -

SUNDAY NOV'R. 27th. I attended divine service, but there was no preaching. - Sermons were read by Gov'r Robinson & his nephew Jonathan E. - Cold but pleasant in a tolerable degree. -

147 MONDAY NOV'R. 28th. Ira made an unsuccessful (J) journey over

147
Ira goes over to Pownal.

to Ovait's (Pownal) for the purpose of bringing home lath for his kitchen (which he had spoken for some time ago) but it was not saw'd - so he return'd with a few slaps which they let him have gratis - telling him that they would send him word when the lath would be ready for him. - I was employ'd most of the time at choping up old wood at Ira'd door. - Hiram went to mill & dun'd Mr. Wilcox for money which he owes me for seed-wheat but without obtaining any. - He did other errands in town. -

E. Waters joiner - comes here to work

Mr. Elisha Waters - joiner - is now engag'd about ceiling Iras kitchen. It is likely he will be here several days - repairing our window windows & other parts of the house. - Mild still weather - Cloudy.

TUESDAY NOV'R. 29th.

Ira was again employ'd with the team - he went to Pownal & bro't from thence 6 bushels of lime which he bo't of Mr. Bill Marsh at 23 cts. per bhl - to be paid in rye deliver'd at Dewey's mill. - After he got back from Powanl he went over to Websters & dug a few bushels of sand & brought it home. - This sand & lime is for the purpose of plaistering Ira's kitchen. - Myself & son work'd in the woods where we got out 2 or 3 loads of wood from (an) a dry maple tree which had been broken off. - Fine weather - warm wind S. -

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 30th.

This morning father & I thresh'd out (&) 11 bushels - corn - 10 of which I carried to mill. - When I had return'd from thence the chief business was setting up a shed back of the barn and drawing horse-dung into the gardens. - Ira in the A. M. work'd for Mr. Parsons at butchering hogs. - Mild air - quite warm - wind South. -

Recapitulation of the weather in Dec'r) Nov'r.

The weather continu'd verry mild & warm 'till about the 13th. of this month, at which time a storm of rain came up from the S. E. - this was follow'd by a calm of about a day & a half - then it began to snow & continu'd without much interruption till about noon of the 16th. - For 4 or 5 days following the weather was cold and piercing like winter. About the 20th. a considerable quantity of rain fell - which was succeeded by cold. - The roads were verry rough. The weather did not moderate again till the 28th. when it became calm & pleasant - and with little variation continu'd so to the end of the present day. - Tho' the frost had penetrated the ground (y) in a considerable degree - yet the warm weather which succeeded the cold has drawn it totally from the earth. - My work, as usual at this season, has not turn'd to much profit. - The days are short - winter coming on many little jobs must be done to prepare for it - sheds must be built to shelter our cattle from the inclemency of the season. - The house and barn must be repair'd &c. - Considering all things it is not possible for me to get much done on the farm during

147 this month. - I had verry good weather for drawing out manure - which is not verry common at a season so far advanc'd - No. of loads 70 - put on to a field to be plow'd next season. -

THURSDAY DECEMBER 1st. Carried out several loads of manure which were left when we suspended that business on the 15th of last month. No more of this work now remains to be done at the present season. - My father thresh'd wheat. I told him he had better do some other work less fatiguing, but would not be disuaded from it, saying that he wanted to do somthing that would warm him - he tho't he couldn't work out-door because it was chilly - nevertheless December hardly ever comes in more mild than it did to-day - A great part of the day it was still - without much wind from any direction, but towards night it began to grow more chilly - wind N. - some rain. -

Pretty cloudy all day. -

FRIDAY DECEMBER 2d. Mr. Waters having prepar'd Ira's room for lathing has suspended further opperations there till the lath can be bro't from mill; and is now at work in fathers(d) house. When he has completed his work here, I shall give a regular detail of it. - My work was with the joiner - in doors most of the day. No nails are to be had in town. I sent to every store
148 in town-street without getting a single nail. - I had an opportunity by Mr. Parsons to send for some out in Hoosack. Ira & Hiram drew 2 loads of wood besides doing other trifling pieces of work. - Mr. Wilcox paid me what he ow'd for seed-wheat - 1 D. - 87 cts. - vide monday

Great rain Wind S. chilly, damp & cloudy. -

SATURDAY DEC. 3d. So rainy that nothing of moment was done out of the house. - With morter I plaister'd the cracks of the cracks of the N. chamber so as (it) to render it much warmer by keeping out the cold. - Hitherto it has been the coldest room in the house. - Was not verry well - being much troubl'd with the head-ache. - Ira made it his business to mend(ed) harnesses & assiste me about plaistering. An amazing quantity of rain was shower'd upon the earth this day - wind continu'd in the S. most of the day. -

SUNDAY DECEMBER 4th. The weather (being) holding out pretty much as it was yesterday prevented me & my people from going to Church. - Rivers & brooks by the vast quantity of water that has been pour'd into them from the clouds & the liquid snow of the mountains, caus'd them to rise to an astonishing degee in many parts of
Streams high. - the country. - Wind N. W. at night at which time the storm ceas'd and it began to clear off. -

MONDAY DECEMBER 5th. Early or rather soon as breakfast was over, Ira was sent away to mill. - Until noon I busied myself about bracing up my fences about home. - Ira arriv'd from mill and in the P. M. we drew up 3 or 4 loads of wood from trees which grew on the W. side of the N. meadow - in the hedge which divides it from the rocks. - Young oaks & walnuts that grow along here of between 20 - 25 & 30 years growth are verry valuable on account of the quality & quantity of the wood they produce. I think it would be a good scheme if I had land to spare, to plant several acres with acorns & walnuts - thereby puting ourselves in a way never to want for fuel or useful timber. - Hiram rode down to Mr. Hinsdill's just before night - he inform'd us of the destruction of the flume of Gen Walbridge's grist mill - caus'd by the tremendious flood of yesterday. - The papers which he bro't from Col'n Fay's are full of interesting matter - the report of a committe of the house of representatives - on so much of Presidents message as related to our foriegn affairs - which is scarcely parallel'd for the concise & correct statement of the subject which it unfolds - and the manufacturer's & mechanic's dinner - toasts & oration - strike the mind (wo) with surprise, wonder & delight. - I place so much confidence in the wisdom of Congress that whatever measures they may adopt for the defence of the country - I shall consider myself bound to support them. - One thing which was done to-day of which I have given no account. - An apple-tree that stood at the N. E. corner of the house was cut down being among the oldest in the orchard. - It is about 35 years since this and a number of other trees were set out. - Cold, cloudy, squally weather - ground frozen on the top & cover'd with a light flurry of snow - wind N. W.

Observations on the growth of timber. -

Report on forreign relations.

TUESDAY DEC'R. 6th. While I and my son were at work with our flails in the barn. Ira chop'd wood at the door. - Threshing being done - I winnow'd the grain (1 bus'l) and Ira & Hiram kill'd fowls for thanksgiving provisions. - The cold has greatly increas'd since yesterday & continu'd thro the day to grow more severe - clouds broken - wind N. W. -

WEDNESDAY DEC'R. 7th. Work'd in the house with Mr. Waters who has been here ever since Monday - Under my orders with the consent & approbation of my father he put up a temporary partition in the kitchen - to try the effect & importance of a permanent one. The boys brought home (d) 3 loads of wood from the sheep-pasture W. side of the rocks. - Dry N. winds - verry cold night & day sky hazy. -

THURSDAY DEC'R. 8th. Set apart by our Gov- Council & Assembly -

148 Thanks-giving. 149

by reccommendation as a day of Thanksgiving & praise in all parts of the state. - Divine worship was perform'd at Church by Mr. Chapman of Cambridge (N. Y.) His sermon was quite a party thing according to the impression it left on my mind. I shall not attempt to copy anthing verbatim, because my memory is not strong enough for it, but to give a general view of his discourse, it is only necessary to mention that he went on much like our New England federalists extoling the piety of that country and declaiming against the wickedness of the Southern-States. - He alluded particularly to the instance of Thanksgiving - intimating that the rulers of those states neglected an important brank of their moral duties in not appointing such days - He recommended, for office, men of the greatest zeal and piety in religious affairs &c &c Now I set this man down as one who would be glad to see Church & State firmly united. -

Federal preacher

After supper Ira was oblig'd to perform the disagreeable but verry necessary service of driving the waggon for mother down to her son Ezra's - who had the great misfortune of losing a little boy 4 or 5 years old, who died verry unexpectedly this morning after a long & painful illness. - This occasion'd my mother to go to her sons. -

Death of Ezra Doty Junior. -

Cold increases - it being keener than it was yesterday. - The roads are horridly broken up - the hubs sharp and solid. -

Rough roads.

FRIDAY DEC'R. 9th. We were not over-anxious to get out early - but when we got about our work it was not abandon'd till night. From the N. part of the present wheat-field (See p. 116 p. 116 June 25th) near Brown's farm we procur'd wood enough to last us a week - and had time besides to go to Parsons's wood-lot and get him a load - having been previously cut ready for drawing.-

The cold last night reach'd its zenith - but it (n) was not less tedious to-day, because a verry raw, chilly and uninterrupted breeze of wind blew from the S. which at night it was perciev'd had made a verry sensible impression on the air - reducing the cold many degrees. -

SATURDAY DEC'R. 10th. Ira took the command of the waggon & horses taking in 2 barrels of cyder for Brown & Turner (which they paid for in hemlock-plank sometime since) proceeded on his way to their mill, where he got 272 feet of lath (bo't of Ovait) and brought home - (vide (p.) 28th. Nov. - p. 147) Myself & Hiram threshed out upwards 20 bushels of corn which father'd measur'd put up - and Ira after his arrival from Pownal carried to mill. Toward the close of the day I rode to town & return'd about sunset. -

Ira goes to Brown's mill. - 272 ft. lath. -

Warm & pleasant in the morning - wind - P. M.. more cool - wind perhaps W. tho it seem'd to be N. here. -

149 SUNDAY DEC'R. 11th. The like this day week prevented any of of us from going to Church - Rainy - wind South. -

MONDAY DEC'R. 12th. Mr. Waters who work'd here only three days last week renew'd his work again to-day. - Ira I prepar'd moter for plaistering his (Ira's) kitchen. - Hiram went to Maj'r Norton's to get some work done. - Waters finish'd lathing Ira's room. -

Cold & freezing at night. - Wind N. W. -

Debate in Senate receiv'd.

Some news-papers receiv'd which give us debates in Senate.

TUESDAY DEC'R. 13th. In the A. M. little could be done to much advantage, but in the P. M. The boys - put down a flooring of wheat which the horses stamp'd out. I work'd considerable part of the time with Waters. - Verry cold - wind N. W. -

WEDNESDAY DEC'R. 14th. Ira and Hiram continu'd the same labors which they begun yesterday. - I assisted them about taking off straw from the floor - and also attended on Waters.-

Cold & freezing to a considerable degree - wind N. W. -

Sellon plaisters Ira's kitchen. -

THURSDAY DEC'R 15th. The boys finish'd off their threshing and prepar'd the grain for winnowing. - Mr. Sellon came on to-day and began to plaister Ira's kitchen - I work'd the morter for him & assisted Waters some about his work. - Weather much like yesterday - wind - in the same direction. -

FRIDAY DEC. 16th. Winnow & measur'd 23 bhls. wheat Sellon finish'd plaistering to-day. - Cold hubby weather. -

150 SATURDAY DEC'R. 17th. On Thursday Waters finish'd what work I had employ'd him about, & took away his tools. - The following is the work done by him viz - ceiling & lathing Ira's kitchen - putting up a partition on two sides of the N. chamber of my father's house - laying a floor between the N. & S. chamber and making a door to the former chamber - setting up a partition in the kitchen to which a door was made - puttying in glass in the evenings - making a pair of stairs from the kitchen chamber into the garret, where he made two bins for grain the last day he work'd here & some other small jobs constitutes the greatest part of what he did in thirteen days. - He is a quick workman & is guided by judgement in his plans. - His price is a dollar a day if not paid in cash - but he said if I (wood) would pay him the cash he would make a discount of one shil-

E. Waters's price and job.

150 ling in a day - I agreed to do it if in my power. - We drew up some wood & went to mill. -

A day or two since neighbor Parsons lodg'd the indentures of Nathaniel Locke & Girdon Griswold in my hands. -

SUNDAY DEC. 18th. Like many other Sundays of late prov'd to be rainy. - This was the principale reason for our negligence about going to meeting. - Wind S.

MONDAY DEC. 19th. Ground our axes which tho' a tedious disagreeable job, was accomplish'd time enough to be able to cut down a maple tree which stood in the S. W. corner of the W. pasture & prepare it for drawing home. -

Warm. - Verry warm for this season - wind S. -

TUESDAY No business of much importance done. - I went to town and had a horse shod at Maj'r Nortons. -

Began to freeze at night - wind N. W. -

WEDNESDAY DEC. 20th. This day a large dry oak S. E. of the lime-kiln was chop'd down for fuel, but it was found to be good rail timber and is reserv'd for that purpose. We got out several loads of other wood. - Moderately cold cloudy.

THURSDAY DEC. 21st. Myself & son thresh'd rye . - Ira drew wood.- The ground continu'd frozen till toward noon, when by the influence of the S. wind it became soft & muddy. This evening I settled accounts with Mr. Parsons by which I found that he had charg'd chiefly for work, to me upwards of 53 dollars - and for various things receiv'd of me - my charges were 60 dollars. -

Accounts settl'd with Parsons.

FRIDAY DEC'R. 22d. Same employment with regard to myself & son continu'd. Ira went to mill from whence he return'd with a "turn-up bedstead & press" borrow'd of Mr. Hunt-which he will put up in his kitchen. -

It was quite warm to-day and verry muddy - some cloudy - wind S. -

SATURDAY DEC'R. 23d. Ira and Hiram thresh'd rye. Not much done by me to-day. - Went down to Mr. Elijah Fay's jun'r & agreed with him to come & help me kill hogs. - Rainy. -

SUNDAY DEC. 24th. A fair day. - I went to meeting and heard Mr. Marsh prech - Cold. -

MONDAY DEC'R. 25th. In the early part of the day Hiram I thres-

150 h'd rye. - P. M. Ira & Hiram continu'd that business and I went on to the mountain - whence I bro't some timber for different purposes - as making whipple-trees &c. Squally & pretty cold wind N.

Killing hogs, - TUESDAY DEC'R. 26th. Had 7 hogs of different sizes butcher'd this day. - Mr. Elijah Fay jun'r head-butcher. Edmund Locke for Parsons - on account of Ira's helping him a about the kind of business. Here follows the weight of each hog.
(When my pork was weigh'd off by inattention the weight of the hogs individually was not preserv'd - therefore I am only able to give the total)
The heaviest of my hogs weigh 232 lb.
Jan'y 11 Total amount of pork for this year - - lb 1458
151 Wind chilly from the S. -

WEDNESDAY DEC'R. 27th. The pork was cut up & pack'd in barrels. - Hiram went to mill. - Mild - wind South.
James Harwood & Mr. Sterns of Wilmington arriv'd here. -

THURSDAY DEC'R. 28th. A few loads of wood were drawn from the sugar place. Ira - teamster. - My son & myself choppers.
Not much sleighing It was a little snowy - but not enough so to add anything to a thin coat of snow now on the ground. - We grow quite impatient about snow sometimes, but it makes no difference it will come when it pleases & not before. -

FRIDAY DEC'R. 29th. Ira work'd for Parsons with the team at drawing wood, and I and my son thresh'd rye in the barn. - Pretty cold - wind blew high out of the N. and it it snow'd some too. - So that we begin to think it tolerable kind of sleighing - tho' if we had been favor'd with that of a good quality for some time before this, we should hardly prize it so high. -

SATURDAY DECEMBER 30th. Winnow'd & put up 33 bushels of rye - which makes with what has been thresh'd out - all of that kind of grain we have grown the last season. - Ira, Hiram & James got wood. - Fair - at night wind S. -
The beginning of this month was mild without much rough blue weather - about the 4th. such a an unusual quantity of rain fell, that with the melted snow bro't from the mountains - the streams of all descriptions were rais'd to a verry considerable height, but they fell down to their common level (when)(it) when the rains ceas'd. -
Weather in Dec'r. given in summary. From the 5th. to the 9th. the cold pressed upon us pretty severely; & the roads were extremely rough with sharp hubs & deep holes - 10th. warm & pleasant - 11th rainy - still holding warm - but on the 12th. it

151 came on cold again & continu'd so till 17th. when it grew more moderate - 18th. rainy and warm - the next day was warm as summer. - The weather was pretty temperate and consequently muddy a considerable part of the time 'till the 24th. cold once more the day following there came a flurry of snow - before all (~~the~~) it could hardly be said to be sleighing - December finally takes leave of us with cold embraces, but with a fair countenance. -

The ground was

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SUNDAY JAN'Y. 1st. Bad weather kept me from Church. The wind came heavily from the S. and bro't with it considerable rain. - Neither warm nor verry cold. -

MONDAY JANUARY 2d. In the night the weather suddenly chang'd - and froze the liquid snow & waters on the ground - which in the roads where there was no snow - made a kind of glazing, so that in the morning a sleigh would run tolerably glib.

Visit at Maj'r Norton's

Having business in town which would detain me a great part of the day, & wishing to afford Mrs. Harwood an opportunity to ride for the benefit of her health (she having been unwell for some time) and make a visit at Major Norton - I had my sleigh tackled up my sleigh and carried her there. Norton did a considerable job of work for me - that and other matters detain'd me till sometime in the P. M. - We got home a little before night. -

Ira & Hiram thresh'd oats. - High wind from N. W. squally blue weather. -

TUESDAY JAN'R. 3d. The principle employment - threshing oats. We yesterday receiv'd a letter form brother of Nov. 1808 - The (im) most important news it brings is that of the birth of son on 19th. of September - The copy of this letter may be seen.

WEDNESDAY JAN'Y 4th. Same business continu'd. - A load of wood drawn to the school-house. - Steady winter weather - cloudy wind N. W. -

THURSDAY JAN. 5th. Hiram with the waggon went to mill. - Ira

Sellon kills his hogs. - 152

assisted Mr. Sellon about butchering his hogs. - My own business not verry important - cutting a little for fire wood constituting the chief. - We had a winter day of it - the wind was sharp & cutting the N. W. -

FRIDAY (Decemb) JAN'R. 6th. The most important occurrence of this day,

Funeral of Mrs. Plan k

was attending the funeral of Mrs. Plank who departed this life on Wednesday, after a lingering of two or three years. No sermon was preach'd on account of the illness of Esq'r Gardner of Pownal who it was expected would preach one. - Weather more mild than yesterday, but still pretty cold wind South. -

SATURDAY JAN'Y. 7th. Ira and Hiram in the A. M. drew wood - P. M.

152 Ira went to mill & Hiram cut up the wood at the wood at the school-house. - I winnow'd and measur'd up the oats - making 65 bushels - in all 75. - Moderate - fair day. -

SUNDAY JAN'Y 8th. This happen'd to be one of our right whirl-wind - days - which render'd the air verry preircing wind N. W.

I attended divine service - perform'd by Mr. Marsh.

MONDAY JAN'Y 9th. The spring-wheat was stamp'd out by the horses & winowd - measur'd 5 bushels - Most important event this affords in my affairs. - Squally & verry cold. - Wind N. W. -

TUESDAY JANUARY 10th.-11th. & 12th. Our chief business was, threshing winter-wheat. - The cold, during that time was excessive - and was aggravated by an almost incessant blowing of high winds. - This week I had the pleasure of seeing - the speeches of Messrs Macon Jackson, of Virginia & John Randolph - in which the two former gentlemen ably supported the administration & measures pursued by it in relation to other nations. - the latter made a furious attack on it - by many allusions to designs in particular influential characters hostile to the state-governments - the chinesse policy &c &c. Not verry pleasing to me. -

Excessivly cold. -

FRIDAY JAN'Y 13th. Made an unsuccessful attempt to winnow the wheat thresh'd yesterday - only clean'd 10 bushels of it - Ira & Hiram got wood - 2 or 3 loads for ourselves & (a) 2 loads for Mr. S. Sellon. - The preceding night was render'd more tedious than any other night in the present season by violent winds from the North and a degree of cold hardly ever exceeded; and it was not until about mid-day that the sun seem'd to afford us much relief. -

Colder still

Towards the close of the day the cold return'd again, but not so piercing as in the morning - fair - wind N. -

SATURDAY JANUARY 14th. Ira & Hiram - same business as on the 13th. Winnow'd & measur'd 20 bushels of wheat - in all 30 bhls. - with that measur'd yest'dy. - Clear & pretty cold. -

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 15th. I did not go to the house of public worship - but stuck my own fireside & beheld thro' my window with unconcern the storm which brings us what we have long been wishing for. - The storm pretty tedious - compos'd of fine snow & hail from the N. E. -

MONDAY JAN'Y. 16th. A letter of this date was prepar'd for bro-

152 ther Jonas - answering one from him of the 17th. of Nov. last - both which I intended to copy, but time being too short, I shall only give a slight (w) view of them. - My brother informs me that his crops were good & hoped they would enable him to pay his debts - that he was much pleas'd with his land & tho't it is a verry healthful country &c - But the (im) most important article in it was, the birth of a son on the 19th. Sept. - To this son he gave the name of George Peter - the latter name in honor of his father. -

Letters to & from brother Jonas

My answer was in a congratulatory strain. - I inform'd him of some particular political characters in this town - and made strong assurances of undiminish'd friendship - with some (l) information concerning his father-in-law - and closed with a strong injunction that he would continue the correspondence on his part. -

Ira (in my service) went with the sleigh & horses for Parsons, out to "the four corners" in Hoosick & bro't back a load of leather. - I shod the sled. - Moderately cold & a little stormy - wind N. E. -

TUESDAY JAN'Y. 17th. Sleded wood. - Clear & cold. -

153 WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18th. This morning Mr. Parsons came to me and offer'd me the money for the use of My sleigh and horse with a driver to-day. - It was agreed to, and Ira was tackled off with Mr. Ault & lady Rugg - bound to Hoosick falls. - At that place Ault & his lady were married - & after a pretty jovial, but short visit, Ira return'd home, leaving his wedded couple at Mr. Demick's. Myself & Mrs. Harwood spent the day in making short visits in different places and doing errands. - To do this business I had Mr. Parsons's horse & cutter. - It was a fair (p) and not a verry cold day.

Ault's marriage.

THURSDAY JAN'Y. (19) (Mrs) Mr. Ellis Doty, who arriv'd here from Wilmington last evening, & myself in the P. M. rode over to the furnace and other places in town. Mr. Marks staid with us last night and went away about 10 in the A. M. - Ira & Hiram took care of things at home. - South wind & rain took of the snow some last night and the rain continu'd till some time in the forenoon from that time it was calm until night, but the S. wind blew pretty hard. - Warm. -

FRIDAY JAN'Y. 20th. Drawing wood constituted the business of the day. - Thawy, warm & cloudy. -

SATURDAY JAN'Y. 21st. Same work continu'd. - Cold w'd. N.

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 22d. I nor none of my people did not attend public worship - Cold and snowy - wind S. E. or perhaps

153 N. E. -

From MONDAY JAN'Y. 23d. to SATURDAY JAN'Y. 28th.

Was unremitingly engag'd in cutting & drawing wood. - The wood is bro't to house from the woods 3/4 s. of a mile distance. On Monday we got 5 loads, and 6 every succeeding day till Saturday when we bro't hom 7 loads to wind off the business of the week. Except Monday it being a little stormy in the morning, (The) the weather has continu'd verry uniform, being pretty cold & cloudy. My father has been verry busy too, cutting wood for two fires so as to have considerable in advance at the close of the week; and also sees to and takes care of many other matters of less importance. Sleighing is never better.

Have sold 16 bushels of wheat for 6 shillings per bhl (for the) one only excepted which was three pence more than the rest.

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 29th. Being a pleasant day I and others of the family went to meeting and heard a sermon from Mr. Marsh. - Nothing of more importance happen'd. - Nothing of more importance happen'd. -

MONDAY JAN'Y. 30th. We went into the woods early in the day and began our last week's business with falling a verry large maple tree, but were (not) able to draw only two before it began to snow so fast that we were oblig'd to retreat from the forrest and (found) pursue some other business to make the day's work whole. - Mr. Atwood (who had a small demand on me) call'd on me today for some corn. - This put me in mind of threshing out a few bushels more than he wanted to send to mill. - According we went to work and thresh'd out about 20 bushels, which bro't it near the end of the day. - Our house was uncommonly throng'd with company. - Uncle Zack'h - his son Abel & son-in-law Hervey & their wives & Ruth Harwood came & made a visit - next arriv'd Mr. Moses Donaldson on his way homeward - Colerain - after him Mr. Sterns - wife & daughter - and the last to come was our good friend Mr. Case of Hoosick - bringing with him brother and sister Stone and their youngest daughter. - Besides those I have mention a considerable collection of the young people of the neighborhood spent the evening here. - Except Uncle Zachariah & his people who return'd in the evening - the others whose names I have mention'd tarried here all night. - (s) - Stormy but not verry cold. - Wind N. -

TUESDAY 31st. Sent off a considerable quantity of provender to mill - Atwood's corn was carried with it & left for him there. When Hiram return'd from mill we went (to mill) in to Brown's woods and gather'd up a load of

153 dry wood for neighbor Sellon. - Ira unwell. - Pleasant. -

154 No thaw has interrupted the sleighing through the whole of this month, and though the cold has been pretty severe some days yet taking it (all) altogether, it has been a close winter-weather. The snow is now about 18 inches deep in the woods. -

FEBRUARY - - - FEB'Y. 1st. Pursu'd the business of drawing wood. - Some cloudy and tolerable cold. -

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 2d. Same work continu'd. - Weather more moderate than it it had been for several days. - Wind - W. -

Stop bringing wood

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 3d. We made a conclusion of the business of getting wood for the present. - Our task was not heavy to-day - only bro't down four loads of bass wood. - The last tree cut before this bass-wood, made (10) 12 heavy loads of wood, it was a tall maple, but not uncommon for its height, for its (thicke) thickness it has few rivals - being 30 inches in diameter at the big end of the first log. - (T) Solid rock maple. - According to the best calculation I can make - I think I have drawn up to my door 100 loads of wood and have 66 now on hand. - Signs of a thaw, wind South

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 4th. Mrs. Harwood - Ira and his wife - Catherine, Hiram & Lydia - tho' verry cold, fix'd off and went over to Hoosick-falls on a visit. (In) - In the morning before they went away - Sellon had my horses to draw a load of wood - one that the horses stood all the while he was gathering it, which illy prepar'd (n) them for a journey of no greater magnitude than from this place to Hoosick falls.

Etraordinary cold

This day I clear'd the barn of corn and took care of the cattle. No day since the commencement of the present season and scarcely in any other, has the cold been keener than it was to-day. - A stiff and steady northwester added not a little to the severity of the weather. -

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 5th. Spent the day with out going to Church. It bro't us weather not less uncumfortable than that of the preceding day. A verry harsh storm of snow and hail was blown out of the E. most of the day. -

Mr. Taylor

MONDAY FEB'Y. 6th. The weather being rough and knowing Mr. Taylor and his wife were at Mr. Waters's. - I perform'd no labor worth mentioning except taking care of my cattle and fires but visited my friends and passed away the time in agreeable chat. My people arriv'd from Hoosick in the P. M. - In the evening a wedding happen'd here, at which I was not present because it was not agreeable to me. -

154 I could not bear to be a witness of the compact, which according to my feelings was to be the consequence of turning my sister away from a good home to depend on a husband, who if one may judge from his past conduct, is (~~not~~) scarcely capable of supporting himself only - and that not decently. - I gave to her the best advice in my powe before the time of her marriage, but to no purpose, her was fix'd and have him she would. - High wind form N. W. Cold indeed.

Marriage

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 7th. Threshing wheat our business. - In the evening I attended a wedding at Mr. Sellon's. His daughter Betsey was married to Mr. Moses Benham by Martin Norton Esq'r. The wedding was not so much of an object with me as to see Major Norton with whom I had some private business to transact. - Pleasant in the forepart of the day but stormy at night.

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 9th. Business of the same same kind - Blue & cold and it requir'd much fortitude to go from the fire and attend to business without doors. - Wind N. W. -

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 10th. Business devolv'd on myself and Hiram this day. - (I h) Ira having been so unlucky as to wound himself with an axe yesterday when cutting his wood, so as to confine him to his house. - Verry cold - perhaps more so than it was yesterday. -

FEB'Y. 11th. Completed the business of threshing wheat. Perhaps it is more proper to say we stamp'd out this wheat because the horses were us'd to tread the whole of it except a few bushels which was got out with flairs. - No material alteration in the weather since
155 yesterday - wind N. W. -
A small addition was made to the snow already of verry considerable depth. -

SATURDAY FEB'Y 12th. Sent down to Capt. Norton's to borrow has fanningsmill - but he could not lend it on account of its being out of repair. - This was in the morning when there was no wind; in the P. M. a weak breeze came up of which I took some advantage and winnow'd in an ordinary manner about 14 bushels. - Singeing cold - the wind came from the N. E. a considerable part of the day - toward night it came - N. W. -

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 13th. Was as clear a day as ever happens at this season, and nearly as cold - wind N. - However in the night it began to grow warmer - the wind veer'd about into the S. and blew up a sort of snow. - We were kept from church by not having resolution enough to turn out into the cold - choosing rather to read or other

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wise pass away the time by our fireside. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 14 Some affairs happen'd last week which I omited to notice at the time. Mr. Ellis Doty & his mother arriv'd here on Thursday night from a journey to Enosburgh. - The began their tour about the 20th of last month and tarried among their friends as long as was convenient - and made a safe landing here on the 10th of this month. When Mr. Doty went from hence to Wilmington he took my nephew James Harwood home with him (being bound to him until of age) who for a considerable time past has been working for Capt. Sage. -

Ellis Doty & his mother return from W) Enosburg

Finish'd winnowing my wheat and found at this threshing I had 41½ bhls merchantable wheat. I have now no more threshing to do. My barn is clear'd of g grain - it only remains for me to reckon up how much has been rais'd on the farm the year past - which I shall attempt to do in a few days. This day was a little more moderate than some that were before it - but will pass for a handsome winter-day - wind S. W. - Mr. Doty of Stamford arriv'd with his wife & 2 children.

Here's a mistake - Now it is TEUSDAY FEB'Y. 15th.

Instead of finishing the business of winnowing wheat yesterday, it was done today and had a pretty rough time of it too, because the wind blew fair from the N. which made it extremely cold - and before I had fairly done the snow began to come so fast as to oblige me to shut my doors - it took me the rest of the day to clear it of foul seed and measure ~~it~~ & put it in bags and in the bin. - Cold - in the fullest extent of the meaning of the word; but not to that degree to which it has been in some of the preceding days. - Snow'd only in the A. M. - wind N. E. or North. -

Verry cold

Mr. Taylor

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 16th. Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Taylor took leave of us this morning for Stockbridge. - It was fair but cold - wind N. -

THURSDAY FEB'Y 17th. With the assistance of Mr. Sellon (of) We kill'd 4 young hogs - weighing as follows - heaviest 129 - 116 - 113 - 90 - altogether 448 lb. Last evening I was in town and found two young men from Brattleboro who wish'd to get a job at getting out flax. I invited them home - they took supper and lodging and went to work on my flax to-day. - Fair but pretty cold - wind north. -

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 18 - 19th. 20th. Mother and myself went to and staid in Troy - I sold my pork (kill'd on Thur'y) to Moses Doty for 4 dollars per cwt. - Gave my note to Mr. Pierce of Troy for the sum of 34 dollars - due from brother Jonas to him. - He has sent his accounts and notes to an attorney at Oswagotchie to be collected by law. - The note which I have given clears Jonas

Important business in Troy. Notes sign'd for brother Jonas. -

155 from the debt. - Another debt* which he owes to Mr. Consider White now stands against me - and one more of nineteen dollars due to Mr. Heart I have also become obligated to pay. - Now all this is done to keep Jonas out of Jail. I agreed to pay a verry small part of it - that is, I told him I would pay what he ow'd to Hart for a great coat & some other things - but he never desir'd me to pay Pierce since he existed, & I never knew until now, how much he was indebted to him him - and the White debt was more than it was reported to be by Jonas. Finding things in such a condition - it put me quite (me q) quite out of humore with my brother

*of $16 & 85 cents

156 because I tho't myself full enough in debt for him before. - The beginning of this was in 1806 - March.

I then sign'd 2 notes with him of 30 dollars each my anger was much provok'd about that, but it did not stop there. (~~When~~) When he mov'd away in Feb'y 1807 he was so reduc'd that I was oblig'd to borrow about (do) 85 dollars for him and Ira to defray the expences of their journey & to buy provisions after he or they should reach Hopkinton. - Since that time I have paid some small debts in this town (~~my~~) - sign'd obligations enough in the whole to come nearly up to dollars. - What displeases me most is to find, that he owes a good deal for that which he would have been better off without than with. (~~it~~) - We us'd to trade with Pierce at the same time. - For his family he bo't more groceries than I did for both of mine. Pierce told me that was the fact when I saw him last. - Had he (~~had~~) been unfortunate - his crops blasted - his family sick, or distress'd by fire - in any such case I should have no reason to (~~fell~~) feel as I do - But it was not so - he has been lavish and imprudent - and were it not for his family's sake he might suffer the consequences of it without receiving any assistance frome me. -

Jonas put several small notes in my hands which altogether amount to 22 dollars - if rightly reckoned, besides which he ~~sign'd~~ gave me a duebill of fifty four dollars and 21 cents he did this at the time of his moving off. - Those notes are much depreciated in value by being against persons living at a great distance or not possesing much if any property. - I must get thro' it as well as I can - thick or thin. - So I begin something new, -

Arrive from Troy

MONDAY FEB'Y. 21st. Came from Mr. Doty's to this place. When at Troy purchas'd groceries & salt to the amount of 11 dollars. Salt is 10/6 per bushel N. Y.

Gentlemen of Bratleboro flax dressing.

The gentemen who came here on Thursday tarried no longer than Saturday. - They dress'd 57 lbs. of flax & had 3d of it. - On Friday it was cloudy - Tho' S. wind blew smartly. - It rain'd hard all day Saturday - settled the snow verry much. - In the night the

156 wind turn'd N. W. and it snow'd some the wind blew verry high Sunday morning the storm still continu'd and was tedious indeed - but in the P. M. it calm'd off - Cold at night. This day - pretty good winter weather cloudy & cold. -

Asa Doty & Lady. - Mr. Asa Doty - wife & 2 children went away from here this morning and left some money in the hands of Mrs. Harwood to buy grain of me or if that could not be done, I was or am to take it and look about where grain may be had. I think I shall let him have some corn.

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 22d. Agreeable sort of weather only a light sticky snow made it bad about making a person's feet cold. - Chop'd wood at the door. - But not to any great profit. -

Ellis Doty

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y 23d. Mr. Ellis Doty came over from Wilmington yesterday on business with me. - He did n't calculate to go home to-day - so I tackled my horses & put them before his sleigh - and he myself rode down to his to his brother Ezra's and made him a good visit & got home sun an hour high. Fair - clear - wind N.

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 24th. We look'd out Mr. Doty's sheep for him. He said he wanted the meanest in the flock, - accordingly we let him have 3 old sheep and (1) 3 lambs - worth about 7½ dollars. - Sheep do remarkably well in Wilmington I am told. -

who purchases sheep

157 Mr. E. Fay jun'r help'd us kill a steer which we have fed ever since Nov'r. - three years old in March next. - He weigh'd as follows -

A beef kill'd

	125	P. M. went to Mr. Loan Dewey's with Mrs. Harwood - got back in good season. Put a letter into the Postoffice. directed to brother Jonas in which I have inform'd of the situation of my
Mr. Parsons takes	115	
	115	
his hide at	115	
per lb. My father	66	
fed him with meal, corn	54	
and Potatoes. -	570	

Letter to brother Jonas see p.164

affairs - what I have done for him at Troy - how much I owe besides as near as I could, from a rough calculation. - Told him how many sheep, cattle hogs & horses we keep - how much pork we put up for ourselves & how much sold - of Lucy's getting married &c. - It contains some political (a) conversation and further informs him that I shant pay any thing but the interest on a note due from Mr. Hopkins to Gov'r Tichenor. The letter concludes with some comments on our affairs in terms calculated to make him understand that I am not well pleas'd with the situation in which I find myself at present - I invited him to come & see me if it should ever be in his power & told him I meant to go and see him if possible. -

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 25th. This morning an Italian call'd here to solicit

157
An Italian asking alms

aid for five of his countrymen who are now in bondage at Algiers - look'd of his credentials - and gave 25 cents to him. - Our work was of little importance - got out about 5 pounds of flax - and took care of our cattle. -
Clear and tolerable cold - wind N. -

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 26th. Stormy Prepar'd fire-wood for Sunday - and more. - Took care of things at the barn Young calves begin to come forward now - we have 3 at present. - Thawy - wind South. -

SUNDAY FEB'Y 27th. The morning was chilly- but the remainder of the day - warm & pleasant - attended a day & an evening meeting - the latter was held at widow Hinmans. Mr. John Wetherby of Abington in Pennsylvania - Luzerne County - (formerly of Ringe in the State of N. Hampshire) put up here to tarry with us till tomorrow. He gives a favorable account of the country in which he lives - says the country is settling verry fast - One of his brothers (Levi) and cousin - son to his uncle John W. are with him. - His people were all well, he tells me, when he left home - except his father who was troubled with swell'd legs & feet. - This Mr. J. Wetherby - his father & the rest of the family were here about three years since on their journey to the Susquehannah country. - See Journal for Feb'y. - 1806. -

John Weatherby calls on me & pays a debt.

MONDAY FEB'Y. 28th. I held a note against Mr. Weatherby of five dollars and sixty cents including interest, given to brother Jonas on the 27th. Feb'y 1806, which he took up this morning giving me the full demand and 39 cents over for want of exchange money. - He and his cousin urg'd me to take pay for their entertainment - but I told them they were welcome to every kindness they had receiv'd from us - they gave us their thanks - and we parted in mutual friendship. - Got 4 loads of wood - The snow is not uncommonly deep - but lays (col) close and sticks verry much to the sled. Mr. Asa Doty of Stamford arriv'd here with his eldest son he came up to the place where we were getting wood & took hold and help'd us chop & load about an hour and a half, near the close of our day's work. I talk'd with him some about sending my son a trip to N. York with him next summer. He said he would carry him if he went & it shouln't cost me more than 4 or 5 dollars. - He went to his brother Exra's to stay at night.

A. Doty. -

158
Message from S. Robinson.

Receiv'd a written message from Mr. Safford Robinson requesting me to attend a Democratic County meeting to be holden at Manchester on the first of March and further requested me to inform such of my neighbors as were friendly to the cause. - The object of the meeting is, to express the sentiments of the people respecting the measures lately adopted by the gen-

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eral governenment. - Intended to have gone to town in the evening but had company and was detain'd at home - Mr. Joseph Norton - lady - Mrs. Street & her brother James Smith paid us a visit this evening. - Clear - pleasant & warm. -

Some how I've made another bull in keeping the the day of the month - As it is put down here - to-day is the last in the month. - The true 28th. day is tomorrow.

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 28th.

Asa Doty of Stamford buys grain. -

We thresh'd out a few bushels of corn this morning for Mr. Asa Doty who bought 12 bushels and gave 50 cts. per bush'l. - also 3 bushels of rye at 4/0 per bhl. & two of wheat at 7/0 per bhl. - in all 17 bushels. - Mr. Doty started off with his sleigh as soon as he had his load made out to him. - P. M. drew four loads of wood which took all that was down yesterday. - Cloudy - a heavy, damp wind blew from the south.- A Mr. Brown who marrided Capt. Waters's eldest daughter - came with his lady - child & Polly Waters and put up here this evening, in order to pay a visit to their sister Sophia. - Mr. Joshua Gates came here to lodge tonight so as to be ready to start with me & my brother in the morning - for Manchester. - This Mr. Brown I mention'd just now lives in Cambridge - N. Y.- distant 22 miles. -

Summary of the weather in Feb'y.

Thus ends the month of February. - The three first days in the month the weather was mild - with plenty of snow and good sleighing. - Saturday the 5th. was an extraordinary cold day - few in my remembrance have exceeded it - and I am in my 46th. year; it was succeeded by a rough storm of hail, wind & snow from the south E. on the 7th. a little more calm - it was found that the late storm and the wind that accompanied it had thrown up many large drifts, which in many places obstructed the passage(s) of the roads.- From the 8th. to the 13th it held out verry cold - the next day not so cold, but no essential change happen'd 'till Friday the 18th. - That day the S. wind blew up a thaw - began to rain in the night and continu'd raining all the next day - a great deal of rain fell at this time. - I was then at Mr. Doty's in Troy, and saw people shoveling the snow of the roofs of their buildings to prevent the snow's breaking them down. I was inform'd of a barn in the village the roof which had been crush'd by the enormous body of snow that lay on it. - Everybody knows when snow is wet it's much heavier than when dry. - The rain settled the snow several (1) inches lower than it was previous to the thaw - it snow'd some Satur'y-night - all the next day the N. W. blew terribly and fill'd the air with snow so that it seem'd like a snow storm - 20th. calm - and so forward to the end of the month - that thaw seems to have broken the winter, for before that we had about 55 days of steady cold (wet) weather - the severity of it too, I think, is quite uncommon in this country.

158 At the end of (next of) next month I shall make some observations concerning the depth of snow in different parts of the country.

Our chief business in this month has been to thresh out our grain - get up some wood & keep the fires going. -

We have had a great deal of company to entertain while it was good sleighing - which was during the whole of January & a great part of February. -

159 WEDNESDAY MARCH 1st. Something happen'd in my life to-day worth recording. - On the opposite page I spoke of an invitation receiv'd of Mr. Robinson to attend a meeting at Manchester; - with the (~~viewing~~) view of going there I arose verry early - but behold it was rainy - felt quite undetermin'd about the journey several hours - Mr. Gates got up - but tho't it too rainy to start yet - we sat sometime by the fire, deliberating on what to do - stay or go - At last day arriv'd and we concluded to venture on at all hazards - the sleigh and horses ready - myself, Mr. Gates & Ira jump'd in - away we push in spite of rain then showering upon us - after that dash was over - we had no more rain to trouble us either in going out or coming home. - When we got as far as Court House-hill - many of the people there seem'd to have given up the idea of attending the meeting, but on perceiving our resolution to persevere - they follow'd the example, & turn'd out in considerable numbers. -

Republican meeting of the County of Bennington.

Arriv'd in Manchester about 11 A. M. soon after the meeting was open'd by the Sherriff of the County - (Col'n. D.) Col'n. D. Fay appointed chaiman & Joel Pratt Sec'y. - A committe of 9 persons was (~~choosent~~) then chosen to bring in resolutions for the cosideration of the assembly. While the committe were absent, the audience was agreeably entertain'd with a prayer suitable to the occasion - and a short, but verry comprehensive & spirited oration deliver'd by Mr. O. C. Merrill. - Immediately after he had concluded his oration; the committe reported their resolutions, which were adopted by the meeting with but three dissenting federal-voices. - (These resolutions may be seen in the "world" of March.)

Several committes were appointed, thro' one of which the thanks of the assembly were return'd to the worthy clergyman who deliver'd the prayer. (for the particulars further see the news-paper.-)

An (a) unsual proportion of this meeting was made up of old revolutionary heroes; which added great solemnity to the occasion, and reviv'd the "spirit of '76" - in fact I never have witness'd a scene more pleasing, in my whole life - an assemblage of republican citizens to the number of O N E T H O U S A N D - all giving the strictest attention to every thing under their consideration - and approving as one man the measures of their government for the salvation of their country, - in short such harmony, decency & pat-

159 riotism prevail'd over the whole - as to excite feelings known only by those who have witness'd scenes equally interesting. -

Return'd home by a good moon-light (about) about (sen) seven in the evening. -

In the preceding night the S. wind bro't on a number of showers of rain which fill'd (with &) fill'd the roads with water & soften'd & setted the snow considerably - during the day the weather was stationary - being warm & cloudy - but at night the wind came - N. W. - began to freeze. -

Sellon at flaxdressing.

W.) THURSDAY MARCH 2d. Before P. M. no business of importance was pursu'd - P. M. Mr. Sellon & ourselves dress'd off 15¼ of flax - Squally, chilly, cloudy weather - wind N. W. -

Ira draws coal for M. Norton

FRIDAY MARCH 3d. I & my son chop'd wood at the pile. - Ira went with the team (horses) drawing coal for Major Norton. - Weather tolerable - Some cloudy - wind S.-

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Of the brown-mare - see p's.

See p.138

SATURDAY MARCH (3) 4th. Choping wood the chief business - went to mill with my young brown mare in Parson's single sleigh - it was the first time she ever was tackled to a carriage of the kind - not withstanding that, she went exceedingly well - it pleas'd me much because she is the strongest & quickest beast of the horsekind which I posess. - See Oct. 4 page (fourt) - page 138. -

Ira still engag'd in dawing coal for Maj'r. Norton. High damp wind from S. W. - cloudy & some rainy. Heard rejoicing guns from the Fourcorners in Hoosick, commemorating the event of Mr. Madison's election - it suited my ear verry well. -

SUNDAY MARCH 5th. Attend meeting & heard a sermon from Mr. Marsh & a long exhortation deliver'd by Mr. Amos Bingham (~~in~~) which in my humble opinion was not adequate to the purpose & in which were many & needless repetitions.

Clear & tolerably warm. -

MONDAY MARCH 6th. Went to mill - in the P. M. took Mrs. Harwood in the cutter on a visit to Mr. Sam'l. Robinson Jun'r. & Uncle Zachariah Harwood's - Return'd in the evening. - (Ira finish'd his disagreeable business for Major Norton. -) Mistake - meant for Tuesday. - Verry cold morning - clear - warm P. M.

Ira got thro' his job at Norton's.

TUESDAY MARCH 7th. Broke flax - son chop'd wood - & Ira completed his uncumforable job at Maj'r. Norton's - see Friday 3 of March. -

Southwind blew strongly & uncumfortably

160

Sellon works here.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8th. No verry regular work (wo) was done till P. M.; then we dress'd flax. - Mr. Sellon swingled (15) 16 3/4 lb. flax. - Squally - wind S. -

Mrs. Sam'th. Robinson's funeral.

THURSDAY MARCH 9th. Attended the funeral of Mrs. Semantha Robinson - wife of Mr. Samuel Robinson 2d. - Sermon deliver'd by Mr. Amos Bingham. It was dislik'd by many, and certainly met with my disapprobation. -

The School ended. S. Nov. 21 1808. -

This day the school of Mr. Hiram Bingham is broken up. I belive he has render'd general satisfaction, for one I feel satisfied. He began his School on the 21st. of Nov'r. last. -

High winds from N. W. - clear. -

An Error

FRIDAY MARCH 10th. Dress'd flax. Mr. Sellon in the swingled lbs. flax - he went away in the P. M. - Ira swingled all day & got out lb. - Last evening settled accounts with neighbor Sellon but not finally - horsekeeping & some labor of boys overcharg'd to me - not yet settled.-

S. wind blew hard - grew damp in the P. M. so that it was a poor flax - weather. -

SATURDAY MARCH 11th. A mistake in Friday's journal, for that day the boys drew home fodder (husks) from Brown's Faybarn - bo't of Mr. Sellon. - It constituted the chief business of the day.

To-day - dress'd flax - or, at least we work'd with it - Ira swingled - my son broke it & I hatchel'd. Quite pleasant S. side of buildings, but where the N. W. wind had a sweep, it was cold - P. M. - wind mov'd into the S. & blew up verry severe. -

161 Produce of the farm in grain. -

I will now give in the produce of the farm the last year. - Wheat 114 bhls. - 10½ acres - Rye 58 bhls. 4 acres. - Corn 257½ bhls. - 11 acres, - Oats 75 bhls. & 10 bhls Barley - 2½ acres. - Total amount of grain - 605 bhls. No. of acres 28. -

Algernon Sidney - Political (obos) observatory. "Hancock" N. Y. Aurora. -

SUNDAY MARCH 12th. Went to Church - Mr. Marsh preach'd. - At noon visited my friend Col'n Fay & borrow'd some of his newspapers. In the Political observatory, an excellant piece entitl'd "An address to the people of N. England by Algernon Sidney" is inserted, which in my opinion equals anything hitherto publish'd on the subject of our political history. - The N. Y. Aurora contains a curious performance sign'd "Hancock" - this goes to (p) prove the formdation of that formidable mass of corruption in society call'd the Essex Junto - and I think he does it in a masterly manner. -

Cloudy in the A. M., P. M. more pleasant pretty cold, however, wind N. W. -

MONDAY MARCH 13th. Work'd at flax-dressing. - Clear in the

161 morning - but snow'd some before the day clos'd - wind N. W., A . M. - P. M. S. -

TUESDAY MARCH 14th. Was as cold a day as ever I knew in March - when the sun (is) was as far to the N. as it now is. Perfectly clear, not a cloudy to be seen. - The evening was like unto January - wind N. -

Verry cold.

Got wood from the N. side of a hill E. of what we term "the gulph" - basswood chiefly - 6 loads. -

WEDNESDAY MARCH 15th. So stormy that we could do no work to-day.- Ira had trouble with his wounded foot. (See Feb'y.10th.) Took care of my stock at the barn - business always pleasing to me, - but never more than in bad storms - when they require particular attention. - Things taken care of - rode to town with an intention of settling accounts with Maj'r. Norton, - but he was call'd away on other business - in the justice line, - so I turn'd short (after getting Smead's little "World) and came home & heard newspapers read awhile & then attended to conserns at the barn. -

Early in the day the wind blew furiously from the S. and lasted so till P. M. It also snow'd more than half the A. M. - not however to make much addition to that already on the ground. - Became calm at night - still cloudy. -

THURSDAY MARCH 16th. Ira broke flax & myself and son got up butternutwood out the N. meadow - Cut off three trees of that kind of wood which grew within a few rods of each other.- 607 loads in the whole. -

Butternut wood. -

No. of loads of wood. -

Pleasant and warm - moderate breeze - N. W.

FRIDAY MARCH 17th. In the morning the weather was fine, - we expected a fine day for flax dressing - went to neighbor Sellon & put him by the swingling-board where he expected to have wrought wonders - & in fact he did do a good days-work, but before noon the weather chang'd materially - the S. wind gradually rose - grew cloudy - and finally we had quite a rainy P. M. - A. M. & a part of the P. M. got butternutwood from a (trew) tree which grew W. of the great hole in the S. meadow - which strangers take to be an ancient (S) cellar - among 4 or 5 other trees of the same species standing thereby, it made 4 loads - grew since my rembrance. - Work at flax P. M. with Ira Mr. Sellon - Sellon dress'd 30 lbs. today.

Sellon dresses 30 lb flax.

163 SATURDAY MARCH 18th. Chop'd wood. - Thawy - brooks high - warm - cloudy - wind W. -

SUNDAY MARCH 19th. Notwithstanding bad traveling my father &

163 myself rode on horseback to meeting, and heard Mr. Marsh deliver his Sunday lecter. - Not verry cold - extremely muddy. -

From MONDAY UNTIL THURSDAY following. Stuck closely to the business of choping at the door. On Monday - cold in a moderate degree - a flurry of snow which fell last night made it quite uncumfortable - Tuesday & Wednesday - nothing uncommon in the weather.

FRIDAY MARCH 24th. & SATURDAY MARCH 25 Same business pursued. Cold sour weather - high winds with flurries of snow. -

SUNDAY MARCH 26th. Was at Church, - Quite warm - wind S. W. - but in the evening a sudden change happen'd in the weather - wind N. W. - cold squalls of snow - high wind. -

MONDAY MARCH 27th. Air full of frost - a light snow bro't before a high N. W. wind - continu'd verry cold 'till late in the P. M., when it was more calm - Sky clear in the evening - no wind, but cold as in Jan'y. -

But little work done to-day. - Was in town more than half the day. - Settl'd with A. Waters. - $5-80 cts. my due.

TUESDAY MARCH 28th. Having finish'd (cut) cutting our wood, I this day began splitting it up & to cord it for summer fuel. - Clear but veey cold - wind N.

Town-meeting Republicans successful

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29th. The day appointed by law for the town to come together for (chus) choosing their officers for the ensuing year.

A full meeting conven'd at the Court House and, after an excellent prayer by the Rev'd Mr. Marsh, proceeded to business - It was conducted in the same manner as to voting as it has been for 2 or 3 of the preceding years - viz by ballot.

All went on well with us, not a republican candidate(i) date but that was carried; so of course Capt. Moses and his crew are down for the present. -

Col. Fay, I. Wadsworth, T. Hervey, I. Hinsdell and B. Fassett are the selectmen - J. E. Robinson - Clerk & Sam'l. Fay - Constable & collector & Andrew Robinson of Irish-corner 2d. constable &c. other officers not necessary to be mention'd, the foregoing being the principal.

By voting by ballot the time was spun out to a considerable length - it being about 7 in the evening before the meeting was dissolv'd.

See March 25th. 1807 - here I shall (an) answer a question propounded on that page - viz "How come Moses Robinson jun'r. to be elected first selectman

163 when he is such a firm federalist - & at the same time a large majority of the town are republicans?
Why I suppose by the deceit of some apostate whig the republicans were enough of them carelessly bro't into the (federalists) federal ranks to keep this man in office 2 years - but this day the republicans united & bade defiance to federal corruption. - See March 30th. 1808.) Heavy winds from N. W. cold & clear. - Mr. Sherman Fairchild from Charlotte arriv'd here last night. -

164 THURSDAY MARCH 30th. Ira and Hiram broke flax - I spent the day with Capt'n. Norton & Mr. Fairchild upon business (corn) concerning a piece of land lying on the W. mountain, formerly own'd by James Street. I shall not attempt to give the particulars of this affair - therefore no more will be said here about it. -

Business with Norton and Fairchild.-

Warm - tho' last night it froze pretty hard - muddy traveling - wind N. greatest part of the day. S. at night.

FRIDAY MARCH 31st. Ira and Hiram work'd at the flax. Splitting & cording wood - my business.

March review'd

March goes out verry warm. - As usual in this month we have had fair days - rough storms - frozen hubbly traveling - and a few days of warm weather and deep muddy roads. - In general thro' the month the air has been cold. The greatest depth of snow in this part of the country has not exceeded 3 feet. I am told in most places on Connecticut River it was full 4 feet deep. From all that I have heard from different parts of the country it is natural to conclude that a great quantity of snow was on the earth during the winter months. But little snow has fallen during this month, and what was here in the beginning of it, has, most of it in low lands been carried off. Some spring birds are here - Robbins and (and) others. -

bhls. of grain sold since harvest & amount thereof. -

If rightly calculated, I have sold since harvest bhl. 96½ of wheat - of which 56½ bushels were dispos'd in autumn chiefly for seed at the rate of D.1-25 cts. per bus'l. and 40 bhls. sold during the winter at the rate of 6/5 per bhl - amounts in the whole to 113 Dolls & 36½ cents. - Sold 9½ bushls rye () 3/9 per bhl. - and comes to 5 D. 78 cts. 20 bushels of corn - 50 cts. per bhl. - 10 Dolls. - So that it appears that all the grain I have sold since Aug'st. last amounts in (w) value to $129 - 14 cts.

Orchard prun'd

SATURDAY APRIL 1st. Prun'd the orchards - a few trees excepted - The wind strong in the south - thawy and warm - the weather opperated much on our spurits.

SUNDAY APRIL 2d. Attended public service - Verry bad going in the roads, which are now exceedingly deep. - Fair sky. -

164
Church and Montague at dressing flax. -

MONDAY APRIL 3d. Montague & Mr. Church got out flax for us today upon shares. - Work'd at the same business ourselves - fair - tho' cold in the morning - it became warm enough before night. -

TUESDAY APRIL 4. Ourselves alone work'd at the (tha) flax - good weather for the business - finish'd breaking - it now only remains to swingle a few lbs. - and flaxing is over this season. -

A storm.

Birth of Ira's 2d child.-

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5th. A verry harsh storm of rain visited us from the E. this day - so that no kind of work was carried on. - Was much out of health. Brother Ira was this day bless'd with another daughter his second child. -

THURSDAY APRIL 6th. Rode to town in the forepart of the day & carried from thence a plow share to Stephen Harwood jun'r. to which he is to make a plow. - Not much work done. -

165
Spliting & cording wood, -

FRIDAY APRIL 7th. and the day following work'd at splitting & cording wood. Tolerably pleasant - but cold freezing nights. -

SATURDAY APRIL 8th. -

SUNDAY APRIL 9th. A verry pleasant, but cool day. - Rode to Church - found bad traveling. -

MONDAY APRIL 10th. & TUESDAY THE 11th. Continu'd working at the business of last week and completed it this night (Tues'y) Quite warm - S. wind blew high - which bro't on a thunder storm in the evening.

TUESDAY APRIL

Fast.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12th. A day to be kept as a day of fasting, humiliation &c. in this State according to reccommendation from the Governor. - Last night a great quantity of rain fell. - Before the morning appear'd it began to snow - & continu'd to most of the day. - The largest flakes were observ'd this mornining that I think I ever have seen before. - Gloomy - gloomy indeed. -

Stormy

THURSDAY APRIL 13th. The storm continu'd so rough that no business could be carried on out-door. - Sometimes it rain'd - sometimes rain'd & snow'd together, but the greatest portion of the time it snow'd. - Came I believe from the N. E. - Ground now in many places & indeed gener-

165 ally cover'd with snow - It began to fair away some in the evening. -

FRIDAY APRIL 14th. & SATURD'Y. - 15th. Work'd at and finish'd spliting up Ira's wood-pile. -

Sat'y. - A. M. Ira drew 2 waggon-loads of (for) wood (to) for Parsons from his shop to Aults door - Sign'd for the "Greenmount'n Fm'r."

Raw & cold wind N. W.

SUNDAY APRIL 16th. Good weather - Went to Chruch. - Bro't home newspapers from Mr. D. Fay's - but not of great importance. - The snow on the mountains which fell on them on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, made a verry bright appearance, and caus'd the air to be sharp & chilly - Wind N. -

Snow on Mountains

MONDAY APRIL 17th. Ira was dispatch'd in the morning with horses & waggon to Uncle Stephen's to bring home a plow which his son Stephen has made for me. - I & my son went about the meadows beettling dung. - Ira when he came home bro't a letter with him by mail from Brother Jonas - dated March 19th. answering mine of Feb'y. 23d. - In this he says "I receiv'd your last letter of Feb'y. 23d on the 7th. of March, which was our Town-meeting day. We receiv'd it with great satisfaction to hear that you were all in usual health - that Diadama has got better & that Lucy has got marri'd, & I hope well for she has waited long enough for a good one. -

Plow made by Stephen harwood Jun'r.-

Letter from brother Jonas continu'd to p. 167

Alas! my joys were all turn'd into sorrow & trouble in reading the further contents of your letter &c" (here he repeats what I wrote concerning Pierce. - I did not copy my letter to him, but the substance of the business with Pierce is mention'd at p.-155 -Feb'y) and then says concerning Pierce's writing to his attorney at Oswagotchie - "which I expected was done, for your letter lay in the Postoffice almost 2 weeks when I heard it was there, & then I expected the matter was stop'd for I was sure that a letter could (got) go from Troy to Oswagotchie as quick as from Bennington to Hopkinton. - I have not time now copy more of the letter - it will be resum'd on the May 1st. 167th.page.

166 TUESDAY APRIL 18th. Began plowing corn-stalk-land with 2 teams, but one of the horses being quite young and having never been in the gears much, it was judg'd (n) best not to put her to such hard labor at this time; so the plowing in the field was continu'd with but one team. - Ira & I came down & plow'd the garden & put our team in the stable. - Ira plow'd in the P. M. - Son & myself repair'd fences - Some cloudy - wind N. -

Plowing begun. -

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WEDNESDAY APRIL 19th. Hiram work'd with the plow - myself Ira undertook to open a ledge near the S. line of the farm for the purpose of getting some stones for building wall, but they were too small for that use. Put up some rail fences &c. - Good weather. -

THURSDAY APRIL 20th. A mistake. - What is mention'd under yesterday - must be put for this day. - The following is the business perform'd on the 19th. Ira went with the team - Myself & son put up fences on the E. line of the farm - adjoining Brown. -

Gardening

FRIDAY APRIL 21st. Gardening begun - plowing continu'd - by Hiram A. M. - & Ira P. M. - Pretty warm.

SATURDAY APRIL 22d. In the morning Ira & Hiram tackl'd up a team of three horses. - Ira had the care of the plow. - ~~My father & myself tagg'd the sheep~~ - We work'd awhile after that, in the garden, but about 2 in the P. M. the rain drove us within doors. - Ira quit his plow & made good his retreat. - In a little time the rain slacken'd then Ira & Hiram went ot Capt. Norton's with 2 colts which he dock'd & they return'd & took care of the creatures at the barn. - at the same time I rode to town & got some blacksmithing done & got some late newspapers of Mr. Fay which are full of news from Europe - the debates in Parliament concerning the U.S.A. & the battle at Coruna &c.

Coruna battle

SUNDAY APRIL 23d. The weather look'd so lowry in the forepart of the day that I gave up about going to meeting- and so attended to the news bro't by last mail. - It treats principally of the war in Spain & the proceedings of the British Parliament. -

Gardening & plowing

MONDAY APRIL 24 Employ'd in the A. M. at gardening - Ira plow'd in the field near Parsons - About the middle of the day a shower of rain - with some thunder, broke us off from our labor 2 or 3 hours - P. M. when it had done raining went to drawing off stones from the field in which we are going to plant corn this season. -

Mr. Sellon & Mr. Benham on the 20th. finish'd dressing our flax. - They at that time got out about 24 lb. being previously broken. - Whole No. of lbs. flax rais'd on the farm is of which Parsons had lb. 12 & 2 other men 19 1/3 d. -

After the rain it was chilly & uncumfortalbe - cloudy.

TUESDAY APRIL 25th. Ira being unable to do any work on account of

166 his being sick, put our business in such a situation that but one kind of work could be carried on with advantage, so my son & myself waggon'd off stones from our field W. of the barn. - Wrote a letter to Mr. Pierce of Troy concerning Jonas's affairs. -

Letter to Pierce

A cold day - wind blew high from N. W. -

WEDNESDAY APRIL 26th. Was awaken'd verry Early this morning by hearing 2 reports of the cannon, which we afterwards understood was occasion'd by (ther) the arrival of news from Washington of the desire of Brittain to settle the differences between her & this country. - Glorious news! I rejoice to hear it. -

Rejoicing in town - Orders in council taken off. -

166-B This morning the ground was considerably frozen so that we were not verry anxious to get into the field. Hiram was sent into the field in S. E. part of the farm, but did'nt do a great deal; the ground being wet, it was thot best not to plow any more this day.- Ira plow'd in the field by Parsons. In the P. M. Our work chang'd - began breaking up green-sward W. of the barn - the ground on which we intend to plant corn. About half of it was manur'd last fall, that part, being the upper side, we began to plow. Hiram was kept busy with the shovel spreading manure. - Really cold, a raw wind from N.

THURSDAY APRIL 27th. Work much like what it was yesterday. - P. M. Our team is of 3 horses so that it employs one hand to lead them. -

Another freezing night - and it was verry chilly all day. - A dry cold wind came from N. W. -

FRIDAY APRIL 28th. Ira work'd in the same field in which Hiram plow'd the other day. (Wed'y)

Garden begin to plant it.

Hiram & I planted 2 beds in the garden with onion rareripes & did other small jobs in that place in the A. M. - P. M. dug stones for building wall - in the pasture thro' which the "dry-brook" passes. - Rough weather indeed for this season - the wind blew highly from the N. W. - verry dry & parching to the skin of the hands. It froze pretty hard last night. -

President Madison's Proclamation. -

The hand-bill containing the communications from the President & his proclamation was handed us yesterday morning by Mr. Parsons. -

SATURDAY APRIL 29th. Ira plow'd Parsons's garden with his horse & 1 of mine in the A. M. - P. M. Ira & I work'd a pair of young oxen never before hitch'd to a plow. They went off pretty well after plowing up a few youthful pranks. - Hiram plow'd in the field adjoining (Capt.) Capt. Norton * crossplowing for flax.

Ira plows for Parsons

Cold weather continues with increasing rigor. The ground was much frozen last night - and the wind blew high & dry from N. W. -

166-B

SUNDAY APRIL 30th. Rode to Church in a waggon with several others of the family. - A youngster by the name of Dewey gave off the charge. -

Recapitulation of the weather in this month

With this day ends the fourth month. And since its commencement has been verry cold and backward. About the 5th. we had a cold storm of rain which clear'd up cold. - A thunder storm happen'd on the (9th) 11th. which ended in snow and lasted 2 days. The snow at this time cover'd the ground in vallies with two inches in depth; it hung on the mountains 4 or 5 days. Good weather follow'd the late storm till the 22d. On the 24th. about the middle of the day (it) a sudden shower of rain came up which lasted but a short time, and was attended with sharp thunder. Then follow'd 6 days of dry freezing cold weather, so that vegetation was entirely stopped, it had scarcely advanc'd any before. No trees are green - meadows & pastures exhibit a winters prospect. Fields of grain with some exceptions are in a condition not much better. I began to plow on the 18th. but have put no grain into the (in) ground in this month - April 1809 leaves us in a glomy situation as to vegetation, but in a verry flattering one with regard to our national affairs. Our cattle have been fodder'd as constantly this month as they were in the winter season. The sheep have with much pains been kept in pasture. -

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MONDAY MAY 1st. Ground being prepar'd began sowing. - A small piece of the S. E. corner of the farm was sown with peas - the rest of the ground, exclusive of what is intended for flax and spring-wheat, is, beside what I have sown to-day, to be improv'd with oats - containing between 4 & 5 acres. - Plow in oats - the ground having been plow'd but once. - Clear and cool wind N. -

Letter in answer to mine of of the 22d Feb'y. last p. 157 top.

Copy of brother Jonas letter continu'd from p.165 But I'm afraid there is some roguery in this business; for I did not have the unwelcome news 'till monday the 13th. The Sheriff told me he saw the attorny a few days before he came out here, and asked him when he was coming out this way. So by that, I doubt whether Mr. Pierce sent any letter. I read to the officer that part of your letter concerning the Pierce business. - I asked him what I should do in the present circumstances of the business - he said I might sign my name on the back of it, (the writ) - that I accepted the service on it - he said it was usual to take bail in such cases, but he said being as it was, he should not require it.

I ask'd him what the cost would be, if stop'd where it was - he said about 12 - twelve dollars. - I told him I could not pay it, for I had not a cent by me - & I told him I wish'd him to tell the Att'y to write me how the business (it) is.

Brother Benj'n I was in hopes that I should not have to write to you concerning my troubles any more for I had paid all my debts, except that Exquire Hop-

(to)

167 kins which I expect to pay in ashes, if the embargo don't stop them; which I hope will not. - I tell you I expected to get along - before this present business, which has blasted all my hopes at present - for I know not how it will turn with me now to pay this twelve dollars, and if I have the whole debt to pay - I shall be oblig'd to sell my oxen - and if I sell them I can't get in any grain this spring - if have to sell my cows - we can't live. - So you see, Brother Benj'n., how it is with me. -

I tell you I never was so discourag'd in my life. When I had work'd so hard & got considerable clearing done - then to loose it all. - I am afraid, as things look to me now in the present form of things, - Every thing is dear here - Onondaga salt is 2 dolls. & 25 cts. per bush'l. - for they do not allow us to trade to Canada - no wool to be had here - I know not what I shall do for my children next winter - I was in hopes that I should have been able to have bo't some sheep this spring, but now my hopes are blasted on that score. - Benjamin I have never written you my troubles before now - and it hurts my feelings now, but my trouble at this time is verry great. When I tho't myself in the fairest way to get along in this world as to property - I rais'd grain enough for my family, & enough to pay my debts here - but all of a sudden the scene changes. But perhaps I shall (see) find some way bye & bye that I don't see now. - Continu'd.

168 I am sorry to be such a great trouble to you with my debts, (but am unable now to make - mistake in the copy) and hard tho'ts concerning them, but I am unable at present to make you any restitution you know as well as I d. -

I wish you to write Mr. Pierce to know whether he has written or not, and that he ought to pay his att'y. for neglect. - I shall write you again when I hear from the Attorney. -

As to the Embargo - I believe the republicans have gone beyond the limits of the Constitution in passing the late Embargo law - which makes the marshal above the civil law - which leads to aristochacy (here he has thro' mistake left out some to which I shall be oblig'd to (go) give my own construction) and I am afraid will end in a civil war. - After this last paragraph, he gives an account of domestic affairs - his grain - cattle &c - Says he had of his last years crop 90 bhls. - wheat - 50 bhls. - corn, - some oats and from 4 quarts of flaxseed he had 31 lb. flax of an excellant quality - He speaks of the severity and length of the winter - thinks it the coldest he ever knew. He had been oblig'd to buy some fodder for fear of what might take place. He concluded winter to be near an end - as the snow there had been 3 feet deep - and at the time he wrote the ground began to grow bare. Were all in good health except sister Phebe, who was not verry well. - Our relations in Hopkinton were in usual health. - "Mrs. Hopkins" he observes "is verry warm on politics. Waite (her son)

168 had six bbls. of potashes taken from him by the collector. - She said sh'd warrent if she had been in Waite's place - he (the Collector) should not have had it". This letter (col) closes with an expression of regret at not receiving a visit during the winter from Mrs. Harwood & I - and adds that he hopes for one next winter. H e could not tell when he could come to Bennington. With his usual compliments to our parents - preceded by a word or two to brother Ira and his wife, - he winds off - with. - I am

Your penitent brother

Benj'n. Harwood Jonas Harwood

TUESDAY MAY 2d. Plowing and sowing - Plowing carried on with 2 teams - Pleasant & warm. -

Flaxseed sown

WEDNESDAY MAY 3d. Hir'd Capt. Norton to sow my flaxseed, while I dug celler for him. It took him 'till near noon. The teams were kept busy at plowing and harrowing. Wind South - warm. -

Spring grain last of it sown. -

WEDNESD) THURSDAY MAY 4th. Finish'd off sowing spring grain for this season. It is all comprehended in one field - being the same which I planted - as my part of last years corn-field - contains nearly nine acres - of which four are sown with Oats 3 with flax & 1 with spring wheat and peas. - Cool & cloudy - rainy P. M. so that no work could be done out. -

How the flaxseed was sown 169

FRIDAY THE 5th. & SATURDAY 6th. of MAY Employ'd at shoveling and drawing manure on to our field which is intended for our cornfield W. of the barn. My flax was sown this year without first harrowing down the furrows as has generally been done according to the direction of my father. The flaxseed was put on the ground at the rate of a bush'l.

SUNDAY MAY 7th. Friday last - air was cool wind in the N. W. cloudy - Saturday warmer, but still what may be call'd cold weather in may, (hush! hush! - always spell May with a capital M.) fair - wind N. -

Rode to Hoosack falls, and made a short stay at brother Stone's, & return'd in company with Mrs. Harwood who went out there yesterday on account of her sister's being sick, who had been verry sick but is now look'd upon as having grown much better. -

Wind S. cloudy & much threatning with rain - a few short showers only of which we receiv'd.

Neither verry cold not not at all warm. - I guess it must go at homely weather. -

MAY 8th. MONDAY or MONDAY MAY 8th. I han't had a chance before now this year

169 to say (~~say~~) that the Apple (little a my dear when you write a common substantive) - well I'll begin that word again - the apple-tree & maple are beginning to show their leaves, grass is of short growth - in fact in many places on our farm it han't (poh! don't do so, it has not, you should say) - it han't grown any. Wheat looks tolerably well on ground facing the S., but when it is decending to the N. the grain is to appearance much injur'd.

Leaves begin to grow. -

Everybody is (comp) complaining - "how backward the season is". "What abackward spring we have this year don't we?" Certainly is is quite cold and unfriendly to vegetation - better weather we are looking for.

Backward season. -

It is a custom with me every year, and I think a good one too, to set down how many cattle, horses &c we possess, twice in a year - viz (in & in) in May & in Nov'r. -

All my creatures have winter'd verry well - & until lately they appear'd to be in a thriving state, but the dry cold weather of late has rather pinch'd out cows. - The reason is, they had awhile ago a considerable range in the woods back of us here - and so up into Street's pasture, - and might still have run there had it not been for their breaking into Capt. Norton's pasture adjoining. Now we are keeping them in the lane - being too early yet to let them into the pastures. This takes more hay than it did when they were in the woods - and they don't look so well neither - we stable 'em as much now as we did in Jan'y. I shan't have hay enough at this rate - I know I shan't. The horses are in good order - Ira takes care of them. - My task is, & has generally been, to look after the crachures (as the Irishman says) at the barn - and Hiram feeds the calves except two fed by Ira's folks & 2 which are wean'd. - Father oversees among them all, but pays more particular attention to the flock. - He has taken great pains to feed them with corn, beans potatoes &c., but after all the younger
170 part of them them don't raise many lambs; by suckling several of their little ones on the cows a few days - has prevented their starving to death. - Our sheep have liv'd without hay for sometime past. - Since last fall I have sold 8 sheep and lost one by sickness - a fine wether of 3 yearsold which was bred as a cosset and ran with the cows - worth at least three dollars.

No. of cattle &c remarks on their appearance.

12	Cows
2	Threey'r. olds
7	Yearling
11	Calves
11	Two yer'd
43	hd. horn'd cattle
51	The flock lambs not included
5	Horses
99	hd. to'l

TUESDAY MAY 9th. Was employ'd in getting out manure yesterday - and to-day finish'd plowing the field W. of the barn. Bo't 38 lbs. of maple sugar of Messrs James & Medad Smith - paid in (par) pork 40 lb. - at per lb. - Bo't at other times this spring 24 lbs - maple sugar paid in grain - in all about 1 busls corn & 2 of rye. - The sugar peddlers say that they've had a long and fine

Maple sugar

170 season for making sugar - great quantities of which are for sale - the general price is per lb.

WEDNESDAY MAY 10th On Monday the wind blew high and blistering from N. W. Tuesday clear and rather cool. Drawing manure on to the field E. of lane leading from the house to the road constitued our business. -

THURSDAY MAY 11th. Plow'd the field N. E. of the house - Weather much like yesterday. -

FRIDAY MAY 12th. Furrow'd the whole & planted about half that field N. E. of the house with potatoes. Ira work'd our young oxen behind the horses harrowing the field W. of the barn. - They made a tolerable sort of team. - Air cold and chilly - cloudy and some rainy. -

Oxen. -

SATURDAY MAY 13th. Finish'd planting that field where we began yesterday. Ira harrow'd with 3 horses in the field in which he work'd yesterday. Rough cold weather - wind N. W.

SUNDAY MAY 14th. Did not go to Church - but others of the family went. -

MONDAY MAY 15th. Had out our two teams of horses and plows & began crossplowing the field W. of the barn but we had not done off more than half and acre when it was concluded best to let it be as it was after the first plowing having been pretty faithfully harrow'd down. The teams were put out after plowing 2 or 3 small yards (in the) near the house. The field I'm talking of, is green-sward turn'd over this spring. P. M. 'Bine Sellen & Ira struck the rows to in which the corn is to be planted, the are lengthwise of the piece & none are to cross them, became in that direction the ground is considerably decending, so that if we plow'd and hoed that way the rains would be likely to wash away the soil. Father, Hiram & his father pursued the business of planting corn. A raw N. wester made the air pretty chilly. Dry - rain is wanted. -

TUESDAY MAY 16th, We all were engag'd, except Father, in planting corn. Middling warm, but dry - wind N. - Our hay is now gone except a few armfuls sav'd for stranger's horses, and we are oblig'd to pasture our cows altho' it is a week too early to turn them in. It was on Sunday that this hay was finish'd. I felt afraid all the forepart of the winter that we should be scrimpt for hay this spring, but my father felt confident enough that we should have plenty for the cattle thro' (thro) the season and some left. (Bit)

Observations on hay. -

170 But it has turn'd out much worse than I had tho't of, at the begginning of March for then I began to take courage, thinking the season so far advanc'd that we
171 should be able to bring our fodder to last to the end of it. Pleasant - much like yesterday. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 17th. What have I to relate this day! Is it of the destruction of all my buildings by fire? - No for kind providence has only given me warning - how much easier property may be destroy'd in a few minutes, than accumulated by the industry and frugality of years? I do not claim any partiality of the Ruler of the Universe towards me (~~or-against-my-unfortunate-neighbors~~) I think I merrited their fate as much as they did, Let us therefore exercise every human facculty in aid of their lamentable & almost irrepairable loss. - I will now endeavor to give some account of the part I took this morning in trying to stop the fire on Court-house hill. -

Fire on Court-House hill. -

Not far from break of day my wife who was not verry well and consequently restless - happen'd to be awake - and saw on the side of the room opposite the N. window a bright light - she call'd me - and I saw it. She then got up and look'd out at the window & said it was a building wrapt in flames! ! ! I was quickly out of bed and ready for action - we bothe thought it was Montagues house I ran over to Ira's and rallied him - and push'd on with all speed rallying the neighbors on the way. On a nearer approach I found it not to be Montagues house and was uncertain whose it was 'till I got beyond Montagues then I knew it was the Courthouse. I hurried as fast as I could, but when I got there the buildings were so far gone that it was in vain to think of doing more than to keep other buildings from taking fire. The first business I found to do was, drawing water - afterwards I carried water. Before I got on to the hill they had torn down Selden's office, which stood between Cushman's house and Merchants Store, inorder to save the buildings on that side. The fire first broke out in Mr. Cushman's barn by reason of the stage driver's going there to see his horses with a naked candle in his hand. As to this matter I am unable to give a correct account as I did not converse with the man. The barn was consum'd in a few minutes, (it flew) and the sheds adjoining were soon in flames which immediately convey'd it to the Courthouse - of course Mr. Cushman's house had to share the same fate. When I got there the fire in the Court-house was blazing thro' the cupola and bursting from the windows on the S. side of Mr. Cushman's house - a sight too awful to be describ'd! ! ! To the north of the Court-house it prov'd destructive to a long shed in one end of which a cabinet maker kept his shop - and to house & barn of Mr. Samuel B. Young - all these buildings were consum'd in the short space of 3 hours. Happily for this town it spread no further - there being verry little wind and that from the S. it was a still cloudy morning - if it had hap-

171 pen'd 2 hous later it would most certainly have swept the whole row of buildings on the E. side of the street S. of the Court House as far as Mr. Young's office - the wind being then fresh from the N. A great number of the citizens of all parts of the town in which the fire could be seen, gave their assistance (m) and made every possible exertion to stop the progress of the fire, and it is owing much to what they did that no more damage was done. - The buildings contiguous to the fire were preserv'd by wet blankets & carpets. In and about the barn were burnt 2 horses, a cow and calf
172 and a hog - 2 (&2) shaises and 2 waggons. Much of Mr. Cushman's furniture was sav'd, but Mr. Young lost all that was in the upper part of his house (only 1 story high) and a great deal in his celler however it is probable that a great many things were destriy'd. (see Green-Mount'n Farmer for next Monday.) A subscription bill was handed about in the morning for the relief of sufferers on which I subscrib'd $10. but I afterwards consider'd the matter over and tho't myself able to give more. - Mr. Brown sign'd 5 dollars!!! I would only observe that about a year ago or more the property of Capt. Hinman deceas'd was (pris'd) priz'd at $18000 - and Brown has this sum and a good deal more clear of debt. When it was known among the crow'd that he had shown his generosity so conspicuously - there was a universal burst of disapprobation. To mend the matter he in the course of the day drove a cow up to Cushman andgave it him. After the buildings were so far consum'd as to have only the cells and such like pieces on fire and not endangering other buildings I return'd home to my business - being about 8 O'clock - Planting corn was our work to-day. - Air dry & cool - wind N. The subscription paper was laid aside - in order that a committe might be appointed to estimate the loss. -

Sellon removes. - May 1807

THURSDAY MAY 18th. Sellen had my waggon - horses or the same as if they both had been mine, one being Mr. Parsons - and a hand with them. - Ira in the A. M. who being taken ill was succeeded by Hiram in the P. M. The team was in Sellen's service 'till between 2 & 3 O'clock P. M. - he being engag'd in moving his family from the Dr. Fay house to Willard Green's house E. of Mr. Joe House's. The same team after that, Hiram being with it, went up S. of Mrs. Billing's and got a load of lime for the Parsons one of whom Andrew, assist'd about it. Yesterday we finish'd planting of every sort in the field, to
*pole that I had leisure to *poll & and plant beans, & to plant cucumberseeds - squashes brom-corn, - some corn (Indian) for boiling - a few potatoes &c making it my only business this day to look after matters of that character. - Pleasant & warmer than at any time this year - & that might be and not be anywise extraordinary neither - good weather - only a leetle too dry - wind S.

FRIDAY MAY 19th. Some trifling work was done in the garden. I

172 went to mill in the P. M. and to see about looking out a place to wash our sheep, in the morning. Ira was sick & taking physic to get over it. Sellen's boys had the team & waggon this morning to go to their father's & home again, then Ault & Andrew Parsons took them & went up to Parsons wood lot & brought a load of wood for Ault, they injur'd the waggon some, but Parsons made it up by giving me a new board. - Weather much like yesterday wind S. -

Sheep-washing

SATURDAY MAY 20th. We took our sheep down to to Gen'l Safford's in pretty good season this morning our's being the first on the spot, & the first flock wash'd in that place this season. I didn't join with anybody this year about washing sheep - as I commonly do, I tho't it about as cheap to do it independently. Myself, Andrew Parsons & Hiram (wash'd) wash'd the sheep & Ira & other threw them to us. The washing place is verry convenient but the water is not quite deep enough. Father went along with as to assist in the business. Soon after we got there Squire Jewett - Fred'c Jewett, E. Fay Jun'r. & Mr. Loomis bro't on their flocks to give them a cleansing. We got our's done about noon. The work pursu'd after we got home was planting corn where Parsons, hog had rooted it out the field lying adjoining the his orchard. It look'd verry likely to rain several times to-day but it was more wind than rain anything else - that from S. W. - We've sold a number of bushels of potatoes this month, to people who wanted them to plant; they go at 2/0 per bhl. - I suppose it may be said that 59 bushels have been sold from our cellar this spring. If we had had 100 bushels we could have dispos'd of them all.

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Sale of potatoes.

SUNDAY MAY 21st. Beside the usual exercise, a meeting was held at the brickhouse, both (wit) which I attended. - Quite warm and cloudy - wind S. -

MONDAY MAY 22d. Elijah Fay jun. is our highway captain this year. He gave out orders last week - to me on Saturday. Our task for this day lay on the road from Jewett's to Cada lane & the road running out to that to Willard Greene's former dwelling. Took dinner at Squire Jewett's with Mr. Fay & Mr. Loomis. - Tolerable warm - showery from the S. -

Highway rate.

TUESDAY MAY 23d. Our highway work was done to-day on the main road - beginning a little below the school house & extending N. a few rods this sdie of uncle Elijah's.

It was quite chilly this morning - wind S. E. - Showery but not so as to afford much rain. - The season is dry & rain is much desir'd. -

173 WEDNESDAY MAY 24th. The work done on the road to-day was in the N. part of the district S. of Brown's fayhouse - N. of blue point - and on the hill N. of Parsons'. - This is the last day Mr. Fay has appointed for working on the highway. - Since Monday I have done labor enough on the road to amount to $8..75 cts. - Cloudy - wind N. W. - Cold.

THURSDAY MAY 25th. The flock was fleec'd. Hir'd Mr. Duncan to assist. - Mr. Gates Doty staid with us last night & went off to his saw-mill this morning, he wish'd me to do an errand to his brother's people in Wilmington, about sending him some clothes he has there - as I am going over there in a few days I promis'd to do him the favor. - Verry dry chilly wind from N. W. - Last year Mr. Noah Dodge help'd us shear sheep - p. 112

FRIDAY MAY 26th. I'm going to put a new cell into the s. side of the barn - engag'd my carpenter some time ago - & according to agreement he came this morning to begin his job - went into the woods & look'd the timber - cut it from the stump - partly hew'd it, drew it home & there prepar'd it for working otherwise. Some poplar (pools) poles were cut for (for) shoars to hoist the S. side of the barn. These were prepar'd & set under the plate of the barn, but not rais'd much. - This is all is it? Yes this the whole. - Well youv'e taken much pains to tell a short story. - It must go so now because it would be quite tedious to go over with it again in order to reform it. Now tell what sort of weather it was, & then it will do. - Wellit was quite too cool to forward vegetation but slowly - some cloudy wind N. W.

Barn under repair.

SATURDAY MAY 27th. Last winter I agreed with Mr. Doty to keep 20 sheep for me & partly agreed with another man to keep 25 or thirty more, These men live in Wilmington. This day we concluded to take 45 sheep & drive them over to Wilmington, I took a young mare and my son & started away about 8 O'clock in the morning & reach'd Mr. Doty's about sundown - found Mr. Doty's people in usual health. Found Mr. (D) Asa Doty there - son of Ezra - he is unable to labor having been lately quite low in health but is now gaining considerably. - Cool & clear weather, wind N. W.

Flock driven to Wgtn.

SUNDAY MAY 28th. As it turn'd out to be a rainy day, neither Mr. Doty or myself went to meeting.

174 We discours'd on politics some - ready & heard news-papers read - Hiram brot from home a few Auroras in which was Whitbread's speech - this was read to us Mr. Doty & I agree verry well as to matters between this country & Britian in '75 & '76 times. - But get

along down to 1806 - 7 - 8 & 9 he will then defend the British cause. He is wanting just such (ac) a government as I do, but thinks he shall never obtain it until a few such fellows as Pickering - Hilhouse & Quincy wear the bell. He has every disadvantage that a a man can have about getting information, that little brat of a Brattleborough call'd "Thee Reporter" is the medium thro' which he sees the situation of his country. When friend Doty & I have disputes it is always in good humor. -

It rain'd the greatest part of the day - pretty cold - wind S. E. -

SUNDAY MAY) MONDAY MAY 29th. Young Asa Doty Myself & son return'd home to-day - having previously arrang'd business concerning the sheep - with Mr. I left 25 & with Mr. Sterns his neighbor I left 20 which they are to pasture until the first of October or near that time - their price is every sixth sheep. On my reaching home - found that Mr. Duncan & Mr. Waters had work'd on the barn on Saturday but to-day it being so rainy as not to admit of their working at framing they in obedience to calls of female economy - whitewash'd the plaister'd rooms of the house. It needed doing & it was just such business as I should have dictated myself. - Now let us go back on to the Green-mountain - here behold the maples & beaches & other trees, not evergreens, without leaves - the buds just beginning to to open a little - the streams fill'd with abundance of water & the ditches by the way side resembling little brooks seeking their level. When we came over to-day the air on the highland was chilly & piercing, a man could not ride without a great coat, & gloves or mittings were quite necessary. In Wilmington things are more backward than they are here, except grass which far surpasses ours. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 30th. & THURSDAY MAY 31st. Work'd on the barn with Mr. Waters. - All our business center'd to this object - in underpining the barn - raising it up & putting under the cell &c. - This P. M. (31st) Ira went to Brown's mill & got 500 feet of boards for covering the barn. Brown's had his pay in potatoes - price for potatoes 2/0 per bbl. - for boards I don't know what, they're poor. -

The 31st. brings us to (then) the end of the cheering month of May. Now what presents itself to our view when we turn our eyes back on the expiring month.? Why we see much work going on among farmers which in common seasons would have been done in April. We see our pastures, our meadows & our fields of grain severely pinch'd by cold - dry weather; - the leaves of (the) trees are a long time coming forth & appletrees do not perfect their blossoms until about the 27th. they are later than I or my father ever reccollected seeing them before - the apple (is) has not yet acquir'd form -

174 corn comes out of the ground with a sickly counten-
ance - Even the 2 last day s in the month are quite
chilly - wind blowing from the N. W. About the 20th
& so to the 23d. we were threaten'd with rain & did
actually get a few showers but not in any degree as
was requir'd, while on the other side of the mountain,
as they tell me, they had a great (abo) abundance of
rain. To say the least of the season, it it is sur-
175 prisingly backward, owing, I am convinc'd (by) to the
cold dry winds which have blown almost incessantly the
greatest part of this month. I don't mean to find
fault about it - all I am at is, to state it just as
it is; perhaps it is a little odd - that can't be
help'd - as I know of. If anybody wants to read my
writing & pick flaws in the style & grammer - here it
is - use it as they please, for I am a plain old far-
mer and never was employ'd as a forreign minister in
all my days. -

The other day I mention'd how many potatoes we
had dispos'd of this spring, I will now add that one
barral of cyder was sold to Mr. Nathan Robinson for
2 D's., & that we have also sold a considerable quan-
tity of butter within 2 or 3 months, but I am verry
uncertain how much, because the women have the care of
that, so that on account of their not keeping an account
of what they sell, it is impossible for me to guess
P anywhere near it. I am under a mistake about the 2
last days of this month - Tuesday the (29th) 30th. is
omited - the business done that day was like that done
Wednesday the 31st. - Thursday shou'd be the first of
June - as is related Ira got the boards that day P. M.
He & Hiram remov'd a fence. -

THURSDAY JUNE 1st. See this sign P above. -

FRIDAY JUNE 2d. Mr. Waters went away about noon - which

Repairs of the barn finished.

makes up 7 6½ days that he has work'd for me. The barn
floor has been taken up & the cells which supported it
have been splis'd & the sleepers level'd - it was lain
down again to-day. I spent the day working about the
barn. Ira & Hiram erected a fence out of the rails
which they mov'd yesterday, they took the broken rails
& brac'd the fence with them - all that was left they
didn't use so, they bro't home for firewood - about
an old fence a great quantity of broken stuff always
collects. Quite raw & chilly this morning this morn-
ing - cloudy - some rainy & cool in the after part of
the day.

SATURDAY MAY
SATURDAY JUNE 3d. It an't verry common is it to be shivering

Verry cold.

about the fire in the month of June? - Such is the fact-
if a man didn't stir round pretty nimbly this morning
he drew himself up to the fire or where it ought to be.
I don't mean to tell an extraordinary story of this
morning just because there was some frost seen in the
meadows, - every one will say it was a pretty cool

175 morning - & it held out so for this season all day - clear - wind N. W. -
A. M. work'd in the garden - here we found that our seeds had but few of them taken root - of the onion tribe especially - that was laid to the girls sowing - because it was tho't they did'nt cover them deep enough in the ground - perhaps if the season had been more wet they would have succeeded better. P. M., we slick'd up about the old barn - carrying off all the broken pieces of borards & sticks & such like stuff that lay about there. - This evening will close the week - let us therefore prepare for the day of rest. - On Sunday the 28th. of May Mr. Parsons' cows were turn'd into my pasture - and his horses were turn'd in last Thursday or Friday.

Parsons' Cows & horses turn'd to pasture

SUNDAY JUNE 4th. Attended meeting. - Pleasant & cool wind N.

MONDAY JUNE 5th. Had business abroad - bo't a set of hoes at Dewey's. The work done was of no great account. I was not absent longer than noon. - Being rainy in the P. M. we laid the flooring of the stables. Mr. Wm. Norton had given us an invitation to go to a raising of his, (a barn) we went when the rain slack'd, but they had been too quick for us - the building was up before we got there. - Father & the boys sow'd ashes on the flax-ground in the A. M. The flax looks poorly Father thinks ashes will save it. - Rainy P. M. - warm rain wind S. -

Wm. Nortons barn rais'd flax ash'd

176 TUESDAY JUNE 6th. We find our spirits reviv'd in some measure by the rains of yesterday & this morning - it gives us hopes of receiving, as we think is wanting, more. -
Bro't home in the morning - 2 backstones to the kitchens of our house & Ira's and work'd in the garden previous to going to town in the P. M. to be a spectator of the training folks. Hiram did nothing but scour his gun in the A. M. Capt. J. E. Robinson's company of infantry & the cavalry company under command of David Robinson jun'r. had a sham-fight, - the latter defeated. Good weather. - ~~Saturday the 10th.~~

Training

WEDNESDAY 7th. THURSDAY - 8th FRIDAY - 9th. & SATURDAY the 10th. Hoing was the chief employment. The corn planted next Parsons' tan-yard is, half of it, pull'd up, by his hens - this is provoking to anger to be serv'd in this manner. During these days the weather has preserv'd constant regularity growing gradually warmer & signs of rain multiplying - which on Saturday were realiz'd, towards the close of that day - a hard shower of rain was pour'd on us - accompanied with thunder. The President's Message & other congress affairs came to us by the Aurora on Sunday last. Our hoing is tough - we bestow the more pains. -

Complaint against a neighbor.

The rains

Presidents message

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SUNDAY JUNE 11th. A heavy thunder shower happen'd - it appear'd in the morning that the rain had descended copiously - the effect will be to invigorate vegeatables of all kinds. - The wind S. & the air verry warm. -

MONDAY JUNE 12th. Hoed all the forenoon and till 4 in the P. M. then went to assist at a raising. About half after 1, two men from (Stamford) Adams looking after work, call'd on us, to know if they could be employ'd here. They were inform'd that, there was work enough that ought to be done on the farm, but a deficiency in pay - so that it was tho't not good policy to hire. However the gentlemen were accommodated with a dinner and baiting for their horses; for which they were verry thankful, & tho' no reccompence was requir'd they hoed with us an hour or more. I never tho't to ask their names, one of them inform'd me of his having been a seaman for 14 or 15 years - that he came to Adams last fall where he had resided & still resided - said he had visited Sweden and Russia. The gentlemen from Adams went away about 4 P. M. Mr. Atwood put up the frame of a cyder house - 36 by 24. He had plenty of help and good rum to reward their generosity. - A few clouds flying before a high N. W. -er. -

Gentlemen from Adams Mass.

TUESDAY JUNE 13th. The present task of hoeing was terminated, and a beginning was made at a new sort of work - making wall. This was a fine day the air warm.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 14th. Work'd at the business begun Tuesday. This wall is built chiefly of stones dug last fall by Capt. Norton for his cellar-wall. see p. 145. It stands on the line between this farm and Capt. Norton's - beginning about 100 rods from the (SW.corner) mistake S. E. corner - 3 ft. at the botton $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high. -

A high S. wind press'd forward a heavy shower to us, - welcome guest to our grain - our grass and our every growing thing. Distant thunder. -

Walling

THURSDAY JUNE 15th. As to business, the same as yesterday except being hindered - About 11 in the A. M. it began to rain hard and kept on till between 2 & 3 O'clock P. M. - became calm again Capt. Norton had sent an invitation to me & hands to assist at the raising of (house) his house, which was to (be) begin at 1 O'clock.

In compliance with the invitation as far as practicable myself & the boys as well as others went down, but found that Mr. Abel tho't best to put it off 'till another day. We came home and pursued our work unmollested 'till night. - The wind was N. W. and theclouds low - while it rain'd the water descended verry fast. Daniel Harper or Danil Workman Harper Cuthburt is now at our house. -

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Invitation to Capt. Nortons raising. Raising postpon'd

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FRIDAY JUNE 16th.

Kept about our own business in the A. M. and in the P. M. went to Capt. Norton's raising, which was finish'd with 3 cheers about sun-set. I am unhappy to state that the principal workman of Mr. Abel, John Shoals a sprightly young man of 23 or 24 years of age, was so unfortunate as he was entering the (n) tennon of a girt between the beams of the garret as to meet with the fol'g. accident - the tennon slipp'd out while he was on the (stick) stick and fell to the floor of the 2d loft - numbers were nearly under it, of whom but one man was slightily hurt, - Mr. Shoals got up and jump'd to the place from whence he fell & order'd the girt, which was verry heavy for a stick of that dimension, handed up again, but he soon found himself badly bruis'd and was oblig'd to quit the frame - a physician was call'd and blood let. Considering the position in which he lay, - lengthwise of the stick with his feet next the end which first struck the floor & the weight of the timber, - it is surprising that he was not hurt much more than he appears to be. Mr. Abel was masterworkman - the frame has no braces in it - Plank are (instituted) substituted - both for studs and braces - 1th. 42 & 26 bdth. - Pleasant - cool in the morning.

Capt. Norton's raising

Mr. Shoals fall & bruises himself considerably.

SATURDAY JUNE 17th.

It is better to have a little done than to have nothing - I've built 8 rods of such wall as I mention'd last Wednesday - our business was there today. - Cool - good weather for business - some cloudy - wind N. A. M. S. P. M. Mr. Cuthburt was not in the field nor at the house to-day - Ah! - then he didn't make his appearance on the ground to-day - Wonderful! - Wonderful! ! indeed - wonderful - So then somehow you get along without him? Yes I did. - Well he's a fine man. - Your right. -

Walling

D. W. H. Cuthburt.-

SUNDAY JUNE 18th.

None of our people went to meeting. Our zeal in christianity didn't drive us to Church becaus of the wet weather. - Dullness keeps a great many who call themselves good people from that place. As I intimated, it was showery wet day - wind S. -

MONDAY JUNE 19th.

Ira with some assistance from Cuthburt & A. Parsons plow'd & hoed out the potatoes - Parsons I believ'd chang'd with them. I rarely ever do a great day's work when I first begin to plow up new ground or greensward. Now I have no oxen, this kind of plowing is done with horses - 3 abrest - The (was) team was put together & hitch'd to the plow & we started forward but the brown mare refus'd to kindly perform her task. In going the first round she would give back - and then with all her strenghth jump most furiously against the collar - this manoeuvre she repeated several times; but going round the 2d time on a smoother piece of

Plowing

177 ground she had no more of her capers & work'd as steadily as I ever wish a (hores) horse to. It was so showery that little could be done in the A. M. and I was gone to town half the P. M. the remainder was improv'd at playing - P. M. Pleasant. Wind N. -

178 TUESDAY JUNE 20th. Plowing was successfully pursu'd Ira finish'd hoeing at home and in the P. M. work'd at the same business for Mr. Montague.

Low flying clouds which had the appearance of being pregnant with much rain, but we had only some slight sprinkling. -

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21st. Yesterday's journal tells the personal employment of myself & son this day. - Ira hoed for Montague till noon. P. M. he dug stones in the same field in which I am plowing - the situation of which is (thus) thus; bounded W. by the sugar place - N. by a pasture call'd the W. pasture, E. by the pasture thro' which passes the natural ditch, on the S. side of that pasture beginning at the S. E. corner a wall is now erecting; and on the S. the plowfield is bounded by Capt. Norton's farm. - Tho' cloudy - a good time for farmer's business. - Wind south - a rain of the slow sort commenc'd at night. -

THURSDAY JUNE 22d. It rain'd moderately all day business was suspended - some trifling matter were attended to, such as mending the stone-boat &c. I did some errands in town in the A. M. Settled accounts with Elisha Waters & found myself indebted to him in the sum of 10 D. & 15 cents.

Leopard & Chessapeake See p. 45 July 15th.

FRIDAY JUNE 23d. The 22d brings to memory the wound inflicted on the rights & independence of this nation by the unprovok'd attack of the british ship of war Leopard on the U. S. frigate Chesapeake. - For this gross insult we have as yet (~~only~~) receiv'd only Brittish promises. - Now for the 23d. and Saturday the 24th. Two busy days which were devoted to building wall. Mr. H. G. Doty put it together & we supplied him with the material. Six rods have been added to the 8 which I completed last Saturday. -

Warm but pleasant - a grand time for grain to flourish. Mr. Doty refuses taking pay for his services saying he had receiv'd some favors here which he felt himself obligated to compensate; however that may be I would willingly pay him, because labor ought ever to command a competent price & be punctually paid. -

SUNDAY JUNE 25th. Fair & warm - and the family generally turn'd out to Church. Mr. Marsh's discourse was interesting - concerning peace - makers. -

178 MONDAY JUNE 26th. Ira and Hiram plow'd - Mr. Doty and I (Doty being hir'd) dug stone in the same field. Some rainy in the morning - quite warm & cloudy.

TUESDAY JUNE 27th. Diging and drawing stone was vigoiously pursu'd

Walling by Ira with 2, & Hiram with one horse. A new piece of wall was begun on the S. side of the pasture S. of a great ledge of rocks which borders the S. eastern part of the young orchard - and occupied as a horse pasture. The foundation of the wall was laid by Mr. Doty - Ira's team drew the stones for it, some of which were verry heavy and one horse (a brown mare) has at times prov'd untrue, but she never gave back once to-day, where there was a possibility of starting the load. Mr. Montague, who owes us some work, labor'd with us this P. M.- principally at diging & (drawing) loading stone .

Hot puffing, sweating weather. - A little before sunset a verry black thunder cloud hung over Anthony's brow which threaten'd us with a heavy shower - we left the field and got to the house about the time it began to rain, but without showering but little rain the cloud pass'd off.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28th. Hoeing was the prevailing business of the day. Mr. Mont'l. - his son Erastus & J. Waterman were our

179 auxiliaries. Our work lay in a field a few rods W. of the house. An afair happen'd which almost sets my hair erect when I think of it. (it)

Wm. Campbell. - A little boy about eight years old, William Campbel by name half brother to Thomas C. Parsons - and only son of his mother by her last husband deceas'd, was riding horse to plow our corn - and Ira holding plow. It happen'd in the P. M. that the women wanted the old mare which he had rode in the A. M. so that we had to plow with another horse - the young brown mare was tackled in and did as well as any creature need do 'till late in the P. M. - when, at the S. end the field the boy bringing her about too short caus'd the plow to hit her heels which so frighten'd her that she hurled the lad from his seat in a twinkling - and had he fallen to the ground he had been out of danger - but (of) one of his feet hung in the stirup - leather - finding this to be the case the mare receiv'd an additional shock to her frantic imagination - she ran with him, hanging in that condition, furiously to the fence which was only 4 or 5 rods distant and there wheel'd stopping for a verry (shock) short space of time kicking up her heels with all vengeance & strength in her power - at this time the boy dropp'd on to his head and (the) she took another tack and ran towards the house with the plow draging behind her, from which she clear'd herself by breaking the collar before she got (half) half way there, - before she stop'd she leap'd the fence and ran up to the horse-stable. -

179 Is the boy hurt? was the greatest consideration with us - and happily disappointed we were to find him only slightily hurt on the ancle which hung in the stirup, his hands a little bruis'd and his face whiten'd by the shocking fright it had given him. - I made a promise never to put another boy on to a young horse in that business. - Ira went to the house and got the mare and rode her himself and with Waterman to hold plow - work'd off (an) half a dozzen rows - she went well enough. -

The heat beat upon us powerfully - some cloudy but no rain. -

THURSDAY JUNE 29th. Between the hours of 4 & 5 this morning we were visited by a hard thunder-shower which continu'd perhaps 2 hours - in that time the lightning struck twice 2 or 3 times a small distance from the house, if a judgement be rightly form'd from the reports - which so quickly succeeded the flashes that scarcely any distinction could be made between them. - Dr.Ellis, formerly of Manchester & now belonging to the town of Georgia, tarried with us last night - and also Mr. Worthy Waters, who is studying physic with Dr. Dorr of Cambridge- N. Y. -

W. Waters
Dr. Ellis

By the rain the ground was render'd so wet that hoeing could not go on to good account - so we dug & drew off stone from the field in which (haw) I have been plowing - Mr. Waterman assisted. - It was verry warm in the forepart of the day, but about noon we had a short shower, after that, it grew cooler and towards sundown there came on a cold rain out of the N. W. - which oblig'd us reluctantly to quit the field to find shelter under our roofs by our fire sides. -

180 FRIDAY JUNE 30th. The roughest of any part of our fallow-ground was plow'd today - the part alluded to, is a high no in the S. part of the field overlooking great part of the farm, and it affords good prospect of the country to the N. E. I intended Ira should have drawn off the remaining stones which could not be remov'd yesterday, but the beast he undertook the business with, would do nothing in that way - so he gave up the project & work'd in the garden till sun an hour high, he & Hiram for the remainder of the day drew off stones and I built wall . - The wind was N. W. - high & chilly. -

On turning our tho'ts back to the forepart of the month we find the weather extremely unfavorable to vegetation, the 3d day is remarkably cold, and it continues dry and cold to the 10th. consequently grain & grass are of a sickly & discourageing appearance, but the scene soon changes - warm weather & frequent showers restores health & vigor to the languishing fields, meadows & forrests. From the 23d to the 29th it was really hot weather & thunder was not unfrequent. - As to my business - I have hoed 4 acres of corn & potatoes (2) twice, built 17 rods of whole wall -- plow'd

180 7 acres for wheat -, but the field is not finish'd - and new cell'd the barn. Have hired days labor since the first of June. - We get from 52 sheep 140 lbs. wool this year. According to the best calculation that can be made we have this year 260 lbs. flax.

SATURDAY JULY 1st. Finish'd off hoeing our corn the 2d time. - Mr. Waterman work'd with us. Good weather - warm and cloudy - wind high in the S.th. -

SUNDAY JULY 2d. Ira assisted the ladies about going to meeting. I was a nonattendant. Temperate pleasant weather. -

Mrs. Doty - Martin

Mrs. Doty & her sone Martin of Troy, arriv'd here from Ezra Doty's about 10 in the A. M. My father being much afflicted with an ancient sore soar on his great toe caus'd by freezing it about 45 years ago - having been frequently distress'd by its often breaking out - particularly during this spring & summer - and being now of a verry bad complexion - it was tho't best ~~desoreet-part-of-family~~ that doctor Swift ~~ought to~~ should be call'd to give his aid and advice in the case. - He was sent for, and came. -

My father's affliction on account of a sore,

MONDAY JULY 2d. - should be 3d. I & my son pursu'd the business of ~~last~~ Friday. Ira hoed for Mr. Montague in P. M. - Clear and pleasant - wind north.

TUESDAY JULY 4th. A there appear'd to be much temporizing going on in both parties in this town - and as I did not desire to sit down at a table on this glorious anniversary of the birth day of our national independence with a gag in my mouth, - and being (as) anxiously solicited by Messrs. J. C. & A. Parsons to go with them to the Four-corners, there to celebrate the day - I accordingly left my business and partook of the pleasures of the day at the place above mention'd, with a small but zealous band of firm democratic republicans - whose proceedings it is probable will be publish'd in the Green-mountain Farmer - which see.

Celebrate the 4th at Hoosack.

Ira & Hiram plow'd in the A. M. - P. M. they did what they pleas'd. -
Fair and not verry, or at least not unusually warm. -

WEDNESDAY JULY 5th. Finish'd plowing 9 acres for wheat. P. M. pull'd out the cockle from the wheat-field. Ira work'd for Montague. Fine weather. -

THURSDAY JULY 6th. While it was fair weather - I & my son were employ'd laying wall - See 27 June.

181 but there came up a rain in the P. M. which oblig'd us to go home. Ira rode over to the S. E. part of the town in the A. M. to get some balsom - work'd

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with me in the P. M. - Mild, cloudy & in the P. M. rainy. -

FRIDAY JULY 7th. The same as yesterday as to my own doings, but Ira & Hiram who had work'd with me in the A. M. so as to learn how to lay wall, found it more profitable and agreeable to them to hoe about half an acre of potatoes - or potatoe-ground P. M. (just as you think proper Mr. grammarian). Warm and cloudy. -

Walling finish'd

SATURDAY JULY 8th. We compleated our wall at noon, this piece makes rods of whole wall built this season. P. M. hoed over half an acre of ground next to Parsons'. Ira & Hiram near the close of the day went (w) to Winslow's with 9 bhl. & 53 lbs. of wheat - sold to Winslow for per bhl. - took pay in the following articles 10 gall rum 2 of M 3 lb. hyson skin tea - one lb. bohea tea - 5/6 - 1 bhl. salt $1-16 cts. Ira had other business in town which kept him out till 8 in the evening. Pleasant but warm. -

Wheat sold to Winslow

SUNDAY JULY 9th. I attended meeting here & Ira & Mr. Horatio G. Doty with the waggon went up to the W. meeting house in Shaftsbury. Some thunder and a short shower. -

Hoeing.

MONDAY JULY 10th. Hoeing corn the last time for this season continued from this day to 12th. -

List

Gave in my list to Mr. Young by the hand of Ira. viz 1 poll 100 ares of improv'd land 1 house 9 cows a pair of 3 yeas-old 11 2 year olds. Ira gave in a list of 1 poll a house and three cows. The 10th. was a fine day, but on Tuesday in the P. M. a hard shower came over from the E. mountain giving warning of its approach by frequent & loud p of thunder - the shower ceas'd after some time in the evening. Miss Lucy Stone & her sister Annis arriv'd here this evening from Hoosack. On Wednesday finish'd off our hoeing - were hinder'd some by rain - the air was rather cool - wind E. and a continual drisling on E. mountain.-

Lucy & Annis Stone

Resolve to plow more ground for wheat

THURSDAY JULY 13th. After repairing the fences around the pasture which contains the fallow ground which I finish'd plowing on the 5th. I came to the determination of plowing that which was still in pasture-ground. It makes an addition of 6 acres to what is already plow'd & comprehends the whole pasture - measuring about 15 acres. For a number of reasons I could mention I conceiv'd that if I sow'd only 9 acres with wheat this fall, it would be far short of answering my demands next year. Taking the whole day together it was verry wet - had one soaking shower. -

Ira went to Mr. Chamberlin's scythe shop & to the raising of Mr. Cushman's house & barn, in the P. M.

181 I & my son plow'd with three horses. -

FRIDAY JULY 14th. Ira follow'd the plow. I & Hiram mended fen-

Plowing ces. - It was pretty lowery & wet to-day, but it didn't rain much 'till about 3 O'clock P. M. then a driving

rainy. shower came on from the N. W. from which we were shelter'd by a small roof which we carry about the fields for the purpose of covering our harness - cool after the shower.

SATURDAY JULY 15th. Business went on pretty much as it did yester-

182 day 'till near the middle of the day Ira was suddenly

Sickness taken verry ill Hiram took his place 'till near noon. - P. M. I took the team & plow. Ira after an hour or two got better so as to be able to go down to Chamberlin's scythe shop near the paper mill, and bring home a scythe. He took with him my brown mare, she being lame, to make enquiries into the cause of it - found it to be a violent bruise in her foot which must fester and break. Hiram went to Uncle Stephen's to get some rakes mended ready for haying. Cool cloudy weather. - wind N. -

SUNDAY JULY 16th. I got ready to go to meeting but it began to rain & continu'd rainy (d) all day so that I nor none but one of the family went. - Air cool - wind E. -

MONDAY JYLY 15th. not 15th. but 17th.

Who can behold the earth delug'd with rain and not feel low spirited down hearted and melancholly! ! What farmer but that entertains apprehensions for his crops in times like these! ! But we may as well content ourselves, - for all our murmurings will do no good; fair weather will come again. - Ever since about midnight it has almost continually rain'd - not ordinarily - but much of the time, like a thunder shower, so much rain has not fallen within so short a time, for six years before. Large brooks are rais'd which but a (short) few days in the spring, have scarcely

Cold rainy been known to rise before within six years. The blow-

weather. ing of of the wind, and the roaring of the waters is despondent music to a farmer's ear - perhaps not to his only but to that of both the sensible man & the beast of the field. - Wind from the E. -

TUESDAY JULY 18th. The team was kept plowing all day. I & Ira went to Mr. Fay's enclosures & bro't from thence a part of our young cattle which had stray'd there from Street's pasture - P. M. Ira and Hiram work'd together at plowing - I mended fences. The clouds were passing continually from E. to W. before a high cold wind and rain'd unceasingly on the E. mountain and occasion'd many showers here, one of which caus'd us to leave the

182 field 2 hours. A deep gloom pervades the land. -

WEDNESDAY JULY 19th. It should have been mention'd yesterday

Mr. Taylor & son. that Mr. E. Taylor & his son Henry arriv'd in town. Mr. Taylor staid with us last night. -

Ira & Hiram pursu'd business as they did yesterday. My work was about - here & there - doing many little jobs necessary to be don. - The E. storm continu'd without much abatement - bringing abundance of rain accompannied with a cold & heavy wind - the roaring of which was plainly heard from the E. part of the town. It rain 'till (but) night, but continued cloudy & the wind continu'd fair in the E. -

THURSDAY JULY 20th. Our plowing was finish'd and some preparations made for haying - a few clips struck at

Plowing done. Think of haying mowing. About 6 o'clock in the P. M. my brother & I repair'd to the State-arms where a large & respectable assemblage of the republicans of this & adjoining towns had convened to choose a committe of arrangement for cel the anniversary of the battle of (th)

Democratic - meeing. Bennington Aug't. 16, 1777. The committe was chosen & consists af about members from towns. Judge Robinson made a handsome speech after the choice of the committe. The meeting dispers'd in good order. - The E. storm is ended & the clouds are returning back -

183 wind N. W. rainy P. M. - verry rainy in the night. -

FRIDAY JULY 21st. Matters werw so deran-g'd that we couldn't do much. Grinding and hanging scythes made up much

Lost cattle & rakes. of this day's work. I took up a part of the day to look up some lost cattle, but could find none of them. Late in the P. M. rode over to uncle Stephen's and bro't from thence some rakes he had mended for us. - Haying is coming on, and every farmer must have his tools prepar'd ready to open the campaign. Showery - wind N. W. -

SATURDAY JULY 22d. Mr. Taylor & his son took leave of us for

Mr. Taylor & son. home. Henry is a young man about years of age a taylor by trade of good manners & of a tender kind disposition. He is now (in) under the influence of a hecktic complaint, to get rid of which he is resolv'd to take a trip at sea. I wish'd him success in all honorable undertakings - hoping that he might soon be

Having begun (st) restor'd to health. - He parted with us in mutual friendship - he being apparrently in high spirits. My son & I mow'd some & hoed in the garden. Ira carried some wool to Hill's & ground a couple of new scythes at Gen'l Safford's. - Our lost cattle came home today - by the road. -

The storm The late extraordinary storm which began on the 16th. is now over - to the great joy of all who have witness'd it. Its parallel in this part of the country

183 at this season was never known. The springs & brooks have been higher than they are in ordinary spring floods the earth is now full (~~over~~) of water - & the streams tho' much fallen are still up at an elevated pitch. Some farms suffer'd unmercifully from the E. wind - which swept grain of of all kinds verry badly where it had a fair sweep - more expecially corn - whole fields of which I am told have been doom'd to destruction. - I am not certain as it has damag'd my crops much - and I have as yet heard from a small part of the country - I shall say more bye & bye. - Pleasant weather wind N. W. - Vide July 31.

SUNDAY JULY 23d. A pleasant day. - Turn'd out pretty generally among us to meeting. Mr. (Harely) Fairlee of Manchester preach'd. -

MONDAY JULY 24th. Pull'd flax for Adam Waters but on our own

Flax-pulling. farm. I sow'd - 3 - three acres of ground with flax-seed in the spring and it has grown up a fine piece of flax - only it is badly beaten down by the rains, & that is the reason why it should be pull'd now - however the seeds are not ripe yet nor has it shed all its blossoms. This piece of flax I have let to three men - an acre to each of them - Viz Messers Printis, Montague & Adam Waters. - They are to give me half of it after it is swingled. Waters pays me in labor what I did for him today. Andrew Parsons work'd for me today. Some hay was got in & a few clips of mowing done before night. - Waters' part of the flax not making out a day's work for us. -

A mistake - Waters' flax was not all pull'd to-day

TUESDAY JULY 25th. We didn't make much hay - the weather being cloudy & showery - so according to a rule of my father I kept the scythes going - he says if it be bad hay-weather keep on mowing & get the hay when it is fair. -

184 We are blessed with strange weather - fair in the morning - but a little before sunset we had a hard but short shower of hail & rain - being a small part of a tremendious thunder storm which pass'd by us on the E.

WEDNESDAY JULY 26th. No hay could be made, but I (kek) kept on mowing 'till I began to find that if I got down much more hay the weather would be so wet as to prevent me from saving - all hands went off to pulling Waters's flax - nasty uncomfortable work it was too. - More than ordinary we had Andrew Parsons the whole day & Horatio G. Doty only in the P. M. - Mr. Waters soon after he enter'd the flax field was call'd away to look after an affair concerning his apprentice - Joseph Plank who

184 it was said was about to quit his service. I ought to have mention'd my father's birth-day yesterday - he was then on the first day of his 75th year. I spoke of a bad soar on his great toe p. 180 - 2dJ. more is said p

The reason why Doty work'd here was on account of Ira's hurting himself accidentally - so at not to be fit (la) for work - took horse - rode away on his own and Doty's business. - Verry uncertain appearances in the weather during the A. M. - but we had serious warning P. M. The clouds hove up all sides of us - and before we could get together much hay - a smart thunder storm came upon us. - At such disasters sicked farmers will rave and swear, but I think the best way is to take it calmly as it comes. - The storm over - nothing of importance succeeeded.

THURSDQY JULY 27th. My business in the P.M. yesterday, I believe was the cause of giving me a cold, which opperated heavily for (at) a time, but I pursued my business to-day notwithstanding, and am happy in finding myself well again. Waters took a couple of hands with him & finish'd pulling his flax - which he did by 10 oclock A. M. The rest of us had been stiring hay - we all went to work at the hay - raking & turning. Presently it look'd like rain - every one stretched his nerves to save the hay - cloud after cloud roll'd up in the S. W. but each was carried away without wetting us except in one instance when a small cloud cross'd over Anthony & gently sprinkled a few minutes, - previously three loads of hay were put in the barn & the rest securely raked together. Messers Doty & Parsons on the ground again to-day.

FRIDAY JULY 28th. The hay made yesterday was got in to-day - the greatest part of Waters' flax bound & set in bunches & the mowing of 2 men in half a day - by Doty & Waters - We all undertook to mow near the close of the day - but little was done because darkness put a stop to it. Rain'd less than it did yesterday but - cloudy - wind W. or N. W. -

SATURDAY JULY 29th. "After a storm comes a clam" said the old woman". As the old lady meant so it has turn'd (of) out, this being one of the finest day we are permited to enjoy - hail'd with heartfelt-joy by every farmer - and not him only (by) but by people of every situation
185 in life. A few hours spent in in mowing and then the sickle is taken down - and thrust into the grain. Two acres of rye were reapt & stack'd - hay to the amount of 5 loads raked and put in the barn. Doty was with us & an apprentice of Parsons' also. 12 loads of hay taken in this wk.

SUNDAY JULY 30th. We attended meeting most of us - & heard preaching by Mr. Dewey of Williamstown. Pleasant -

185 The preceding night cold - wind N.

MONDAY JULY 31st. Another glorious day for haying & by us well improv'd - 3 acres of mowing being done - two thirds of it raked & in cock or doodle and two loads carried under cover - having been mow'd on Saturday. Waters & my son went in the P. M. & finish'd binding & bunching up his flax - soon after which he had to go away to attend an arbitration on a case between him & Mr. Plank he was call'd on Saturday before night on the same account. Waters works for me this hay-season - Doty went to Capt. Nortons. The Locke boy was here and did well too - lives with Parsons.

A July extraordinary ends with this day - extraordinary because so much cold rainy weather was never known by the present inhabitants of this country at the same season of the year*. In the space of 15 days it rain'd more or less each day. The storm which began on the 16th. did much damage to farms situated near the E. mountain. Before I end the account of this month it will be proper to insert an article from the G. Mount'n. Farmer in relation to the great storm. I am happy to find that my crops were not much injur'd - not at all - compar'd with what others have suffer'd. My chief business in this month has been plowing and mowing. (m) Mowing was not begun 'till the 20th. - & no time lost neither.

Since the 10th. of June or thereabouts it has been a flourishing time with grass & grain, but by being kept back in May they are both late - it may be prov'd from review of past seasons. - See 17th. 19th. & 23d. - ps. 182 - 183. -

From the Bennington paper of this day -

"On the 17th. inst. the citizens of Bennington & the towns adjacent were visited with an uncommon storm of rain during the whole day, which was follow'd by a severe gale of wind for about 24 hours. The wind & rain did great injury to our farmers; the wheat, corn and flax are greatly damag'd. Some cornfields near the mou mountain; in the eastern parts of Bennington, Pownal and Shaftsbury - were entirely destroy'd - the stalks being all broken off by the violence of the wind. No extimate can be made of the loss of this country; but it must amount to many thousand dollars". -

*Not successively, but during the month. -

TUESDAY AUG'ST. 1st. We should (p) have perform'd a fine day's work if it had not rain'd. A large quantity of hay had been mow'd on a part of the meadow called the unfortunate piece it contains about acres of ground. Before it rain'd 2 loads of hay were run in. The rain was but light - tho' it spoild our hay weather. - shower in other qu quarters. - The (win) day was ended in mowing. -

WEDNESDAY THE 2d.
THUSDAY THE 3d. The work went nicely - because we had verry fine weather.

186 In these 2 days many loads of hay were made & carried into the barn. Tuesday, Wednesday & this day 6 acres of mowing was done. At the close of this day Waters' flax put in stack. Nearly two thirds of my mowing is done. -

FRIDAY AUG'ST. 4th. My northern wheat field (See P. 116) was enter'd to-day - of which 2 acres were was gone over and nearly all of it left in gavel. - The S. wind had been blowing all day & the clouds began to gather in the evening. I retir'd to rest with serious apprehensions for my grain. I discover'd in my field to-day and aggravating circumstance. On the N. side of the field next to Brown's farm I found that his geese had eaten as much wheat in different spots as would cover a quarter of an acre of ground - Saw Mr. Brown & call'd him to see how his geese had used me. All the satisfaction he could give was, that he was "SORRY" - I guess I should not have been sorry if I had cought a dozzen or 2 of them at the game of bitting off heads of wheat - and rung their necks stoutly - I don't believe I should have felt a "bit sorry" See May 17th. p. 172 at top 8 lines below. -

Brown's geese See 4th. of Aug'st. See P.29th. May 25th. 1810.

Waters and I were reaping all day. - Ira & the boys only the P. M. - because they in the A. M. got in hay - all that we had cut. My rule is to do but one sort of business at a time - If haying, pursue it with vigor - and so with harvesting. - Waterman work'd with us about an hour at the close of the day.

SATURDAY AUG'ST. 5th. Verry early - while darkness enveloped the land. I arose and rallied hands & by the time the sun had risen an hour above the horizon all the wheat left in gavel - last night - was bound up & gather'd into small stacks of 1 shock in each. - In this manner we secur'd about 50 shocks of this grain. All that was reap'd today, except a few gavels I had immediately done up in the same way. It look'd much like rain all the A. M. & gave us a (thoug) touch in noon (at) (noon) but lasted only a few minutes. After dinner we reaped a little while & it began again to rain. - I left the field, dismiss'd Waters for the remainder of the day - and went about other business - we however did something more at reaping before night - there being some time that it did not rain - but finally a smart thunder shower settled the matter for this day. - Mr. Waterman was so generous as to join with us this morning in taking up the wheat - I promis'd him a reward for it. Every one did verry well this moring except my son - who gave way to his feelings so much as even to lie down in the field, he said he had suffer'd much in the two preceeding nights for want of sleep. Nath'l Locke work'd here all the week.

Wheat taken up verry early in the morning. -

SUNDAY AUG'ST. 6th. Was an attendant at shurch. Mr. Marsh - instructor. Last night Mr. Elias Lincoln departed this life. He formerly risided the other side of the

Lincoln's death.

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Father's affliction on account of a sore.

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mountain, (ba) but has for some years past been an inhabitant of this town. He died at the house Solomon Safford. The sore with which my father has been so long afflicted has become so much better that he walks about & enjoys tolerable rest, but can do verry little at any kind of business. For several days he was confin'd to the house & underwent a great degree of pain. From the bone of his great toe Dr. Swift has taken eight pieces which sealed off. Swift is the Dr. who takes (of) care of this sore. See Sunday July 2d. p. 180. - Warm - wind S. -

MONDAY AUGUST 7th. In the preceding night there had been much rain - the rains had not ceas'd till late in the morning therefore everything without was wet - so that our day's work was begun late, but by being favor'd with good weather the (rea) remainder of the day, our business went on as well as we could wish it. Neither Waters nor Locke work'd here to-day. -

TUESDAY AUGUST 8th. Having cut so much of my of my (of) grain as was ripe by noon of this day - and knowing that neighbor Montague had a field of wheat quite fit for harvesting - on condition that he would work for me in return - I with 2 hands went to reaping for him this P. M. - Brother Ira & Waters were the hands I took. When the Sun was between 2 & 3 hours high a sudden & violent shower of rain came up on us which completely penetrated our garments - so that we were as wet as drowned rats. My (bt) brother & I quit the field, but Waters & Montague kept to work till night. I dare say say their insides were as wet before the day ended as their external parts had been. -

The loss I sustained by Brown's geese I estimate at four bushels of wheat - see Friday last. -

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 9th. I and all my people (men - not women) worked at harvesting for Mr. Montague. Hiram & Locke were sent off, soon after we enter'd the field, to a field of grain, of mine into which my cattle had enter'd through a gap in the fence which had been blown down during the night. Mr, Norton's boy inform'd us of it. He drove out the cattle - but left them in the pasture- they immediately went in again - Mr. Norton, before the boys got there, had driven them out & was putting up the fence. To him I owe the preservation of my field. - His farm lies contiguous to this field. The cattle injur'd the grain verry little, but the stacks of flax they damaged some - which the boys soon rectified, and return'd to Montague's field in about two hours. - My neighbor of whom I spoke is Mr. William Norton. - It was notic'd by many as being an extraordinary cool day. - Cloudy wind N.

Cattle break into my grain. Mr. W.Norton

THURSDAY AUGUST 10th. I had a good deal of hay mow'd in the A. M.

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Mr. wants help and is assisted.

but was called away from it - Mr. Montague sent (work) word that he was in distress for help - Mr. Doty & myself turn'd out & serv'd him during the P. M. I was sadly disappointed at night - when I found the boys had not raked & cocked up the hay. They had done up perhaps a quarter of it & struck the rest into winnows - there it lay in that situation - when the horizon was cover'd with clouds which threatned rain before (li) the light of another day. Ira was taken sick about two hours before sunset which put the business out of tune so much. -

Mr. Doty work'd for me this day. Hiram & Nath'l Locke finish'd the reaping of the field which we left on Tuesday - they work'd there awhile that P. M. -

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FRIDAY AUGU'T. 11th. Our expectations of rain were this morning realiz'd by its beginning to rain. Each one took his rake (at) and us'd it with as much dexterity as he could. However the clouds broke away & we took time to breakfast before it could all be secur'd. In the course of the A. M. this hay was put together ready for a storm, & some mowing done, but in the P. M. it rain'd verry hard - business on the farm suspended & ourselves safely seated in the house hearing newspapers read, which treat of our british relations in a high strain of disapprobation - & I declare my heart & hand is. with them. I would not be understood as alluding to the prints call'd federal - as good as they are for an apology for british iniquity - I believe they are horribly stagger'd now. - It's Copenhagen-Jackson for us now. - Locke went (away from) home this morning.

Work for Mr. Mont'g in Capt. Norton's field. -

SATURDAY AGU'T. 12th. Work'd in Capt. Nortons field of wheat - reaping for Mr. Montague. I had but just intered on business before luck would have it that I should wound myself badly with my sickkle, but it was well done up - and I minded no more about it. My son cut himself in his hand about the same time & went home. Mr. Doty did some mowing & then with my consent took my young mare and rode to Pittstown where a camp meeting was held. Cloudy - dull hay weather. - Ira cradled rye.

SUNDAY AUG'T. 13th. Raked up several hundreds of hay after service - because it appeared verry likely to rain - the hay being in tolerable order. -

Warm & cloudy wind S. -

MONDAY AUG'T. 14th. Caused that hay which was mow'd last Friday to be dried and carried in. - Mr. Church Mr. H. G. Doty cradled rye. The old gentleman was rather unwell - cut his finger badly so that his day was not quite so profitable to me as he would have been if he had been sound, tho' he did pretty well. He lives with Montague-he & his lady. Mr. Montague & his Erastus reap'd wheat. Waters & Waterman bound & stack'd - I would say only

188 Montag- and people work here

bound cradled rye - A. M. - Mongue & sonhelp'd stack it P. M. then they all reaped together & we join'd them after the hay was put away. I had been looking out for showers all day - but none came till about sunset - & then we had a soaker - and lasted a good while too. - It was attended with thunder, but not violent. This is another wheatfield I am speaking of to-day - not that where Browns geese got in and destroy'd so much grain for me - it an't so good as that was, having been badly kill'd - intermixed with chess & grass, it lies along that W. boundary of Brown's farm - comprehends 5 acres. See - 15th Sept. -1808 & turn to last Tuesday - keep turning back 'till you find the man who was "SORRY". -

TUESDAY AUG'T. 15th. Late in the day (T) the harvesting of my winter-grain was finish'd. Mr. Mont'ge & son were here - Mr. Church was not. Mr. Doty & Mr. Waterman were a party with us. Mr. Montague & I settled accounts about our work, & found ourselves even. Good weather wind N. Mr. Martin Field only son of Mr. Jesse Field was inter'd this day aged 20 years - much lamented by all who knew him.

189 AUG'T. 16th. Democracy was triumphant this day, I was so happy as to be among the enemies of aristocracy and monarchy - and the friends of the rights of man. The federal party under the direction of a quid committe (of whom one only has borne the steady character of a federalist) formed a procession of between 3 an 400 persons, marched on to Court-house hill - reversed their front & march'd into the meeting house where Mr. Marsh delivered a sermon which I had the pleasure of hearing, tho' I must be understood as having nothing to do with the party at whose request it was preached. Mr. Marsh I think did well, his text was in these words

When the sermon had ended I left the meeting house and no further attention was paid by me to what the federalists had to do. About in the P. M. the democrats formed their procession which reached from the brick house to the meeting house and contained at least persons. Col. D. Robinson marshal of the day - assisted by Maj'r. Hawkes and Capt. Eben. Cross. In front the flag of the U. S. A. was carried by Col'n Eli Brownson of Manchester - next to him followed the committe of arrangements who

As usual the music went in front of the whole. (in) In this order they marched to the meetinghouse - the band playing till the whole had enter'd the house. I shall not take upon myself to relate every particular - one thing I have omited now - Capt. Jonathan E. Robins infantry company most of them volunteered & form'd a part of the front of the procession - and added much to the beauties of the scene. After the people were seated a prayer was

189 made by Mr. March - followed by a sermon delivered by Mr. John Leeland. His text was these words

His (S) sermon being gone thro' - & having made a prayer - Mr. Haswell arose and read a letter from the venerable John Stark to the inhabintants - or rather the republicans of Bennington & it's vicinity - which contains excellent sentiments - rousing to every republican who breathes american air. The proscession then formed as before & marched on to the hill - where a splendid repast was provided & many were partakers of it- but I was among those who felt the want of pocket lining so much that I considerd myself unable to be at the expence of a public dinner. After the cloth was remov'd I sat down & took a glass of wine with my brethren - the toasts and songs were sentimental & cheering to the soul of every true whig. Steadiness and civility ~~was~~ were punctiliously observed through the day. Plenty of powder was burnt by Capt. Osborn's artillary and Capt. Robinson's volunteers. For more particulars and better information see Benn'gt. paper of Aug't. 21st.

(The post did not leave a paper for me of the above date having distributed them all so that he had none left except one for neighbor Parsons. I have since sent to the office for a copy, but there was none left Sept. 1809. -)

No. of bhls. of wheat wold since the 31st. of March I extimate at 20 which at $1:47c per bhl. amounts to 29 Dolls & 40 Cs.

190 THURSDAY AUG'ST. 17th. Drew in the wheat of the N. field (p.166) - Some mowing done. Great probabilities of rain - which finally came about sundown, but hot heavy or of long continuance.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY AUG'ST. 18 & 19th. Kept busy at haying. - A large piece of ground was mow'd over & several tons of hay taken therefrom. Waterman and Waters were here & the Locke boy Saturday. Good weather cool nights. Corn is verry late - none of it is fit to roast.

SUNDAY AUG'T. 20th. After meeting attended the funeral of William Gillispie who died this morning of the wounds he receiv'd on the 17th. by a horse falling on him as he was riding down meeting house-hill - intending to go to Woodford.

Funeral of Wm. Gillispie.

MONDAY & TUESDAY 21st. & 22d. Twenty first the rye of the field in the N. meadow was with a large quantity of hay made secure. - good weather - Twenty second. - good weather. Twenty second. A number of loads of wheat were drawn in, and a considerable quantity of hay put in stack. I got my business in such forwardness as to be able to (~~diem~~) dismiss Waters this

190 evening. He has labor'd in my service since the 25th. of of July 13½ days. At the close of my haying & harvesing an extimate of the expence of hiring labor &c for the season will be made. (p. 192 Sept. 4th)

WEDNESDAY AUG'T. 23d. The winterwheat was the last of it drawn in - & the hay of several bawks gathered which finished off haying. Brother Clark of Putney & Mr. Ellis (Stark) Doty arriv'd here about 3 in the P. M. -

THURSDAY AUG'T. 24th. Threshing - or more properly treading wheat the chief employment. Wet & rainy - wind S.

FRIDAY AUG'T. 25th. Began plowing - with 2 teams one of which however we were obliged to dismiss on account of deficiency in strength - a colt forming a part thereof. Ira (ct) cradled oats. - Rainy - wind S. -

SATURDAY AUG'T. 26th. Waterman & Ira cradled oats I had business to the furnace. Hiram in the field plowing, but business in the fields ceas'd at (not) noon - beginning to rain. Brother Clark sat off for home this morning - having previously taken a prospect of the farm. Mr. Doty went away yesterday - Rained quite steadily P. M. - I believe I took cold riding in the rain for I was verry sick at night. -

SUNDAY AUGST. 27th. Much out of health - consequently not able to attend public worship, but my folks attended in the P.M. A boisterous day - great rains. -

MONDAY AUG'T. 28th. Ira and Hiram with three three horses plow'd (with) A. M. I took them in the P. M. and they cut down and bound up the spring-wheat - put it in stook. Fine weather - streams verry high many people believe a greater flood has not happened this season. -

TUESDAY AUG'ST. 29th. Ira cradled oats - Hiram work'd in the same field He was put to the plow where I had work'd in the A. M. P. M. I & Ira raked & bound oats - Weather good - rather too cool for corn. -

WEDNESDAY AUGST 30th. Was verry busy(ness) at harvesting oats. Andrew Parsons work'd for me all day - all day did I say - it was late when he bagan & early when he left off. -

191 Another alarm by the weather or its appearance happened this day. (Thursday August 31) Yesterday we carried the oats in shief together in larger heaps & left them so to remain over night, there being then no signs of rain. I went to bed without any apprehen-

191 sions for the safty of my grain. Not far from midnight I awoke & beheld thick clouds all around the horizon - rain I expected shortly - there lay my grain in the manner I have related; - the boys were call'd and we went into the field & put all those shieves (~~were made~~) into stooks or small stacks. While we were thus employed, - the clouds broke (and) away - the moon threw upon us her feeble rays, and before we got home the wind which had blown from the S., turn'd & blew from the N. W. - all signs of rain vanish'd & the day was as fair as any this month has afforded. Thus, what was done to the grain this morn'g was all lost labor because it happily turn'd out to be good weather - nearly the whole of it was put in the barn. Ira was, in consequence of his early rising, so unwell in the P.M. as not to be able to work. Mr. Doty assisted us in the morning expedition & work'd at drawing in oats 'till noon. Ira finish'd cradling the oats, which ends the business of cradling - reaping or mowing on this farm for this season. My oats grew rank & thick. Of this month it may be said to have been wet and cold - cold for the season. No night has been so wa warm as to admit of a person's sleeping comfortable without covering - (at) during this month, which is usually the hottest in the whole season. Corn is uncommonly late, it is feared by many that a great scarcity of that sort of grain must be felt next year. Hay, grain & fruit are all late this year. This summer has been the coldest that has been known ever perhaps by the most aged among us; notwithstanding thunder has been frequent. Rains have been heavy since July, but not to such a degree as during that month - not lasting so long - more fair weather intervening - however on account of its being so wet or some other cause, it is verry sickly in this town and many other places. I think it has been one of the most extraordinary seasons ever known in this climate

Bennington Aug'st. 31st. 1809. Ben'j. Harwood.

SEPT. THURSDAY THE FIRST. Not so.- it should be Friday. The chief doings of the day consisted in raking and binding oats. Ira was sick in the A. M., but in the P. M. he assisted (~~Hiram~~) me about raking ~~plowing~~ oats. Pleasant. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 2d. Mr. Doty yesterday prepared timber for a harrow which he finish'd to-day. I had business with Capt. Sage. Plowing continued by one team. Good weather. -

SEPT. SUNDAY THE 3d. Attended to the usual exercizes of the day perform'd by Mr. Marsh. Fair. -

192 MONDAY SEPT 4th. Having borrow'd a horse of Isaac Godfrey, we were enabled to put two teams in in motion - managed

192 by Ira and Hiram. Mr. Doty & myself hock'd up a piece of peas.. Fair weather. -

Have made a calculation of the cost of hir'd labour during haying & harvesting - which is about twenty one dollars, (p. 131. 18th. Aug.) and nearly 10 Gall'n rum. Pleasant - with a cool breeze from the N. W. -

TUESDAY ~~AUGST~~.SEPT. 5th. Spent the A. M. in the garden P. M. Ira, who had been plowing, my father and myself attended the freemen's meeting - and put our weight in the democratic side of the scales. - William & Henry jun'r. & Samuel Safford - candidates for Representative to the General Assembly, of whom theformer was successful by a small majority. - Galusha had 217 - & - Tichenor 200 votes - for Gov'r. - One of my teams kept the field all day my son not being yet old enough for a voter, Cool - wind high N.

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 6th. Plowing with 2 teams & theshing wheat - our business. Verry cold in the night - wind blew high all day from the N. W. -

THURSDAY SEPT. 7th. A gentleman (mr Leeson) & his daugh't. from Rowe Mss. - tarried here laste evening - should say last night. Ira & Hiram finish'd plowing the ground where we intend sowing wheat - the 2d time. Godfrey's horse dismiss'd. - I work'd at the barn among the grain. Verry fair & not so cold as yest'y. - wind N. - A slight frost notic'd this morning. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 8th. Ira work'd a pair of steers & horses with them - harrowing. Hiram was sick. I did some light jobs about the farm - & threshed some Mr. Marsh came here to buy a cow, but didn't complete the bargain. - Mr. Sternes of Wilmington staid with us last night. He informed me that he had disposed of 16 of my sheep at 3 D. per h'd. amounting in the whole to $48 which he delivered to me yesterday.

SATURDAY SEPT. 9th. Myself & Hiram thresh'd wheat Ira follow'd the business by him pursued yesterday. Went town at night. Mr. Horatio G. Doty had my brown mare to ride in our troop of cavalry - being the first time she ever stood on the parade, her behaviour was decent I have spoken of this beast in several places - Vide p. 138 the top See p.160 4th. M.)

SUNDAY SEPT. 10th. Was within the walls of the Church, but could hear butlittle of Mr. Marsh's talk, being verry sleepy. Pleasant and warm. -

192 MONDAY SEPT. 11th. A few hundreds of rowan (was) were mow'd & the last of my grain drawn in - including two loads of peas. My oats were good this season, one field of wheat was tolerably fruitful, but another field facing to the N. produc'd a thin crop - 6 acres of rye quite light - 2 good, spring-wheat full middling and the peas scarcely middling - for hay see - Mr. Doty work'd for me to-day. Ira harrow'd with his oxen and horses. Pleasant during the day but thundered and rain'd some at night. -

193 TUESDAY SEPT. 12th. Undertook to thresh out my peas but found them too green to shell easy - therefore made a stack of them. A Mr. Stephens of Cooperstown arrived here this morning, in the employment of Mr. Waterman to convey my sister, his wife, to him. Ira went with this gentlemen in the P. M. collecting some articles which are to form his load going back to Cooperstown. - Hiram went with the team after Ira left it - one of the Parson's horses forming a part thereof. I prepared some wheat for sowing in the P. M. Pleasant - wind fresh from the N. cool. -

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 13th. I must now give a short account of an affair which happened a few months ago that caused the unhappy event that took place this day. In the winter of 1808 my neighbor, Mr. Parson hired a journeyman shoemaker by the name of James Waterman. He conducted himself well 'till sometime in the fall - and had frequented the company of my youngest sister who had become warmly attached to him, but it was tho't by many that knew of his courtship that it was almost an indifferent matter with him - that he was attached as much to one girl as he was to another, It was known that he had said many things injurious to the character of my sister - whose ear he had so compleatly gain'd that if her best friends informed her of it- he would flatly deny it - which weighed as much with her as if he had been put upon his oath before a magistrate. Some small difficulty however arose between them in the forepart of October and he suddenly quit the town, pretending that he was going to see his parents in Connecticut - not far from Norwich. We now flattered ourselves that the match would be broken up- Sister Lucy said a great many hard thing (d) about him, because she had now an opportunity of detecting his fraud. But as fate would have it, he returned again after an abscence of about three weeks. His old employer would not hire him again, he had found him unfaithful in his business - some of his customers complaining of the work which had passed through this journeyman's hands, notwithstanding he procured himself a seat in Waters's shop. As soon as my sister had an opportunity, she renewed the courtship with him, contrary to the advice of her nearest and best friends -

193 to whom it appeared that he cared nothing about her - telling her that it was her ruin if she married him. No advice had any influence on her mind, except it encouraged her to go her own way, - in this case I believe she had verry little consolation that way, because I don't think any person ever advised her to marry Waterman. She grew more and (fond) more fond of him till at last they concluded to be married.
194 My father's consent was obtain'd before he had become acquainted with the man. I now tho't it time for me to say something. I told her that if she married Waterman she was ruin'd - if she had any property - it would soon go for his debts. To prove what I said I took a view of his economy since his first coming here to that time - evidnece of the strongest kind. Mrs. Harwood said everything she could to persuade her not to have him, but all would n't do, she must and would have him. - See p. 154. They were married on the 6th. day of last February. Not long before he was married, his father came to see him. The old man was greatly rejoiced at seeing him - his son having been absent at least 5 years. This circumstance completely brought the fellow out in a (lye) lie, because, ever since his return, he had said that, he had seen his parents. He earned very little if anything through the whole winter - idling away his time in drinking - and making poor bargains. He was fond of being in company - which precipitated him int many foolish extravigancies - detrimental to his character & interest.

Some time in April he made a contract with Mr. Hunt in partnership with Erastus Severens for a considerable quantity of jewelry, a sort of stuff that I despise - it is a mere cheat - composed of copper. With this honorable trumpery he & his partner made a peddling tour into the western Wrn. parts of N. York State, and in some parts of Canada . In about 3 weeks they returned with some property - of much greater value than what they had given for it - this property which consisted of old horses and watches, they put into Hunt's hands. They did not get rid of the whole of their copper trash in their late expedition, which obliged Waterman to made a short journey or 2 more to mend his ill success. How he made out, I am not able to say, but it is certain he did (di) not get rich. In the end Mr. Waterman and his partner after they had paid over all they possess'd in the world found themselves obligated to pay 150 doll'rs., over and above to Mr. Hunt. During the season of hayingand harvesting Waterman work'd pretty steadily, but finding himself in the limbows he concluded to slip off privately, in the latter part of August - and go to his friends in Cooperstown. We did n't learn 'till after his departure that he ow'd anybody but Hunt - it however appears that he owes several other small debts to a considerable amount. Thus much - to shew the cause of the (~~trowb~~) trouble that came upon me this day. - Some years ago it was agreed between me and my father that I should pay the heirs to his estate. I paid off all

194 of them except sister Waterman of whose intended portion I am the proprietor, because I have never delivered it to her, neigher has her father deliver'd it into her hands. It was found that if this property was put into her hands it would probably be seized by Waterman's creditore. She concluded not to receive the property as her own - but to borrow it of me, agreeing that it should be return'd to me whenever I might call for it. An inventory of the things that composed Mr. Stephens load was made out by her, and given to me, including a written acknowledgement that she receiv'd those articles of me as lent property - agreeing to return it to me whenever I might call for it - sign'd by herself & three witnesses - viz Samuel
195 Brown Samuel Robinson jun'r. & Horatio G. Doty. After this business was fix'd, I went off to meeting - this Church in Bennington having appointed this day as a day of fasting and ~~(praying)~~ prayer. Mr. Rathbone of Hoosack was the preacher. I had been in the meetinghouse but two or three hours - when, brother Ira came to me & told me that Mr. Jonathan Hunt had beveled an attachment on my goods which which I lent to my sister. The goods had been loaded up and proceeded on the road as far as Capt. Wickwire's or near there before they were stopped by the Sherriff, my young people were in another waggon going out with my sister as far the edge of York State to take leave of her; Mr. Horatio G. Doty and Andrew Parsons were with them. Mr. Stephens at the request of the officer bro't the goods back to (the) Mr.Ewowen and Robinson's - here the load stood for sometime. In the meantime I went to an attorney - Mr. Jonathan E. Robinson - for advice. He told me it was best to let Hu Hunt go on as he pleas'd - and assured me that I was an (~~gee~~)good ground. After awhile Mr. Hunt took out such articles of the load as he tho't would satisfy him and discharged the rest of it. Mr. Doty, Mr. Stephens & Mr. Parsons saw Hunt take out the things - they saw him break open a chest the lid of which was nailed down - this is not according to law - and he ought to have known it. The articles which he took will be nam'd to-morrow. When Mr. Hunt had discharg'd the waggon the day was far spent, so that Mr. Stephens was oblig'd to come back to our house & put up for the night. This young man acted with great circumspection through the whole affair, he really appears to be a fine man. Our women were collected and brought home. We were all at hime in the evening - and busily engaged in ruminating and talking of the business Hunt has so furiously commenc'd. A great many things came into my mind after I went to bed, so that sleep was driven from my eyes. all this work was new to me - having never had a lawsuit with against any man before in my life, but I found myself now in a situation where it was almost impossible for me to avoid it. - I went to Mr. Hunt before he had taken out any of the goods and stated the situation of the property, to him; but it had no impression on him - he went on according to his won inclunation - there-

195 fore he must abide the consequence. When my father was told of the affair, it threw him into a most violent passion - he renounced Mr. Hunt at once - on whom he used to bestow some favors - but he now declared that these should never be renewed. Waterman shared equally (~~the~~ (~~equally~~) the lash of his tongue. He had never entertained with him - and always was strenuously opposed to giving Lucy anything - after she was married to him. -

The weather was fair and cool. -

THURSDAY SEPT. 14th. A copy of the writ serv'd on my property yesterday, was left at my brother's house this morning - containing an inventory of the articles which composed it - I shall enter them here, but not so particularly
196 as they were there inserted - viz two beds, - 2 bolsters, four pillows - four coverlets - one pair of sheets - two blankets - and two bedquilts. - This paper I carried to my attorney - in whose hands I left the whole management of the affair. When I was returning home Mr. Hunt met me in the street - where we held a conversation for some minutes. - I told him that I should load up another bed to send off with Lucy, and asked him if he should presume to take that. No - he said he should n't. He offer'd to relinquish twothirds of the debt - if I would promise to pay the other third - 30 dolls. - - he would wait on me a year and a half, and take it in any kind of produce - even in potatoes he would accept of it. To this offer I objected - for why should I oblige myself to pay Waterman's debts more than any other man's - especially a debt contracted for such vile stuff as this was. I have nothing to do with Waterman's debts - nor his property - if Hunt can find any of his property - he may take it and welcome - I have nothing to say; - but I will resolutely contend for my own property - if a man takes it from me, ~~ehe~~ when he holds no demands against me - as Hunt has now done. Is it come to this, that if a person happens to lend his property to another person - who owes Mr. somebody - that this Mr. somebody goes and (see) seizes it and obliges the lender either to surrender the property to him or pay the debt? I hope not. I hope we live in a land of more justice than that. - When I spoke of Waterman's going off, yesterday, I mention'd his going to Cooperstown among his friends there - I ought to have said a little otherwise - the town where he now resides is about 25 miles W. of Cooperstown - the name of which Shurberne - his parents and brothers reside there also. A kit of shoemaker's tools of Waterman's was taken - & and an inventory taken of them - in the writ - or copy of the original writ - handed me this morning - with that I have nothing to do. - My attorney - Mr. Jonathan E. Robinson is order'd to take out a writ for Hunt shortly if he refuses to return me my property. -

Ira harrow'd with three horses. - Hiram went to

196 Esq. Smith's & got 5 bhl. plaister that he bro't from Troy for me - had Stephens's horses to go with - drew up some rowan with them likewise - found them pretty good horses. Some cornstalks were cut off - and some hunting done by Stephens and Doty. - A great frost last night for the time of the year. - Clear and cool. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 15th. Mr. Stephens and Sister Lucy - after I lent her a bed with suitable covering to it, again set forward for Shurberne. I went with them as far as Kinions in Hoosac and there parted with them. Something rainy - Ira and Hiram plow'd stubble with three horses. -

197 SATURDAY SEPT. 16th. With two teams which it was some trouble to collect, we plow'd stubble-ground - where I had wheat this year - next the Moseley farm ( ) Mr. Horatio G. Doty work'd for us. Cool and cloudy wind N. W. -

SUNDAY SEPT. 17th. Went to meeting with a brave load of ~~fare~~ ladies among whom was Mrs. Betsey Safford who arriv'd from Enosburg on Friday last. Clear & cool. -

MONDAY AND TUESDAY 18th. & 19th. of SEPT. The business of sowing wheat was hotly pursued - had three horse teams plowingin the seed. Clear & warm. Kept the teams and drivers in the field from morning 'till night - refreshment being bro't into the field. Mrs. Safford's horse I had these two days and a horse of Parsons Saturday, Monday & Tuesday. -

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 20th. Finish'd sowing wheat except about an acre. Work'd till late in the day. Two teams going - Parsons lent me his horse to-day. Our house was, last night, full of company, of whom Mr. Willis Taylor & Mr. Augur of Williston were two - old mates of mine - at least the former was verry intimate with me when young - and I was verry glad to see him. They tarried here nearly all day. Mr. Doty (Gates) & a Mr. Samuel Dix left our house this morn'g for Fort Edward. Gave Doty a note for 12 doll'rs. & 50 cts. - on demand. Fine weather. -

THURSDAY SEPT. 21st. Sowing wheat was finally finish'd to-day. Two teams were going - one with the harrow all day and the other with the plow in the A. M. - & P. M. with another harrow. - This harrowing is, to smooth down the furrows where it is sown. Parsons' horse again P. M. only. - Good weather - warm. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 22d. Harrowing was gone through with & all

197 things made use of in the field, brought home - making a handsome waggon load. Had one of Parsons' horses today. - The field contains about 17 acres, but there being spots in it where I could not plow, I reckon no more than 16 acres sown. It plow'd twice - then harrow'd - the wheat sown & plowed in - & harrow'd again - the last thing done to it - so as to render it smooth. Us'd 5 bushels of plaister & sow'd 23 bushels of wheat 11½ of which was were last year's produce. This field comprehends the S. W. part of the improv'd part of the farm. One part of it is rather new because but one crop was ever rais'd on it before, the part which has been worn some lies E. of the new, on a flat, where this year's wheat is sown, the old wheat was put on the other part. - Had excellent fine weather for sowing as ever blew. -

SATURDAY SEPT. 23d. My flax is let this year - I have nothing to do with it now. (I) I agreed to find them team to carry it into the lot for spreading. The field in which the flax was stacked I wanted for the benefit of pasturing cattle. The gentlemen were apprised of it - of whom only one man (Mr. Prentis) appeared on the ground. Therefore we took out all the flax (6 rackloads) into the pasture where it is to be spread. Just before we got on the last load Mr. Church came up & soon after Mr. Montague - they went to spreading their flax. My neigghbors who take this falx are good men, but tormentedly hurred with other work so that they could not get about the flax 'till now. - Waters han't come yet. Vide p. 183 July 24th.) Let the cattle in to the field & mended up the fences - bro't it to night. Ira went to Ezra Doty's after women. Rainy alittle - cloudy - strong S. wind.

198 SUNDAY SEPT. 24th. Attended a thin meeting to whom Mr. Marsh preached. Cold & cloudy wind N. W. It had rain'd some in the preceding night. -

MONDAY SEPT. 25th. A letter of this date to brother Jonas is written. It states, after an apology for not writing sooner, that my people were well - that Father had been lame with his ancient frozen toe about 6 weeks - so as to (to) prevent his doing any work - his recovery & going to work contrary to his promise. The letter next speaks of the season - see p. 191 - 31st. Aug'st. then of the crops - see p. 192 &) of the prospect of a searcity of grain before another year - of a certain marriage in the neighborhood, - (See a name at the bottom of p. 56) & of sister Lucy's going away- the character of her husband in a metaphor and gives some account of the fire in May last. p. 170 - 17th., the division among the people where they shall put another Courthouse - about its being sickly on Court-House hill - the deaths of Mr. M. Field, E. Merril,

198 Mrs. Semantha Robinson - Mr. Cady, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Gillispie & Mr. Henry Walbridge - persons who have died since the the of last March. -

(By him who pens this journal, among his errors it must be confessed as one, that in speaking of the two gentlemen from Williston, he said (in his father's name) that they were two old mates of his, whereas his acquaintaince with Mr. Augur was was little more than his name. Vide 20th. of this month. -

The letter, - It tells him that I am well pleased with the elections of this year. The P. S. informs him of Mr. Taylors having been here and bringing the only news I had receiv'd of him since last March - which by me was welcomed joyfully, and of brother Clark's visit (see Aug. 26) - of a few lbs. wool being sav'd out for him - & concludes with compliments to our relations in Hopkinton. (should be relatives in Hopkinton) Ira writes a letter on the same sheet, but I have not time to write the substance here. -

TUESDAY SEPT. 26th. Yesterday the A. M. was taken up in sowing rye on ground plow'd last Friday and Saturday. (p) Ira's business - harrowing - My own and Hiram's P. M. cutting stalks. - In the former part of this day I & my son were employ'd at cutting cornstalks - Ira at harrowing. P. M. Hiram with 3 horses were plowing - the field in which I sow'd yesterday, not being all of it yet plowed. No change in my business. Pleasant, but cold at night, wind N. W. -

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 27th. The final job of my sowing this season was done, the ground having been plow'd by noon - to-day Ira spent the P. M. in it with the harrow. This field had wheat on it last year - it comprehends acres of a arable ground - bounded W. by Brown's woods - N. by the improv'd part of the moseley farm, & S. E. & S. by our own land - bushels of rye have I sown on this piece. - work'd hard & late to get our stalks pik'd up. - but we did n't succeed. - Signs of rain. -

The ground on which my winter-grain is sown, is not less than acres, - the quantity of grain about bbl. of which are rye. -

THURSDAY SEPT. 28th. Ira left off harrowing at noon, - at the same time I had finish'd doing up the stalks in the corn field. Dug potatoes near Parson's P. M. - Fine weather rather cool. Since Monday frost has visited our coasts in the night season - but not of the irongrey kind - which at this time would damage corn greatly. -

FRIDAY SEPT. 29th. We shut up our hogs, that are intended for our supply of meat. The cydermill was set up. Mr. Prentis spent nearly all day repairing it. -

199 Hiram with some trouble and spending much time got a span of horses shod at Maj'r. Norton's, whose

199 family being 3 of them verry sick & himself not able to labor, gave a deadly blow to his business, which is now conducted by a young journeyman not well Skilled in the trade. Warm weather indeed. -

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29th. This month has passed off verry smoothy - but little rain - much fair sky - some hot days - great dews cold nights & great frosts of the white tribe - a slight one on the 7th. & a sharp one on the 14th. Corn is verry late this season, and on that account, much injur'd by the frost, - of this more will be said on Tuesday. - I am happy to state that my corn is doing verry well, the frost not having made much impression on it.-

After spelling out Sept. so carefully I should suppose I might just as well write 30th. as 29th. - See here see this m - ii - g - h - t, might. - Yes - take notice how streight spelling & writing are don done on this and other pages in this book - they are scribbled over by a boy in his father's name - no ma mask at all - the boy is seen through the whole of it. - Never mind, it does him no hurt - it keeps him out of mischief - and learns him slowly the use of the pen. Sitting up late in the evening is injurious to a person's health - therefore while I (the writer) am well I'll take heed and go to rest. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 3d. On Saturday Mrs. Harwood & myself traveled on horseback as far as Mr. Ellis Doty's in Wilmington - partly for a visit, & partly on business. Tarried with Mr. Doty 'till yesterday morning - went to church on the sabbath - liked the man tolerably well - a handsome speaker, but was bound down to his notes rather too tight. - The business I had was concerning my sheep- which I found in fine order. I agreed with Mr. Doty to keep those he had there (25 in number) till the 20th. of this month, and then let James, my nephew, drive them over to me. Doty wants to buy some grain of me and wishes to have James work for me several days on that account. - As to Mr. Sterns - look at p.

Had an agreeable visit - arriv'd (~~on~~) here about dark - took supper at Mr. David Weeks, who treated us verry handsomely - keeps a public house but would take nothing of me. In Wilmington their corn is almost universally destroy'd by the frost - at this time it is scarsely fit to roast. In towns adjcent the frost has caus'd equal destruction to corn - potatoes and beans are light - grain will be in all probability verry scarce on the E. side of the G. Mountain. - They (my people) attended closely to the business of diging potatoes - by substituting the plow for the hoe, but this was found to be of no gain - and rather a hindrance. Nothing else singular occured in my abscence. - Today
200 Ira and Hiram attended training all day. (9 O'clock) I went not to training, but was soberly engaged about my own business. Mr. Sterns to whom I am indebted for keeping 19 sheep 18 weeks for 2 cents per week per head agreed to take four sheep allowing 2 cents per lb. -

if they overun his price for keeping the sheep he is to pay the odds to me, but if they fall short, I am to make it up to him - If he does not weigh the sheep, he is to pay me a dollar and keep them - it is at his option to do one of the two ways. - Vide of Oct'r.) A verry warm and fair day.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 4th.
THURSDAY & FRIDAY the 5th.&6th.

The only employment we had was, diging potatoes. Good weather - remarkably warm - a shower of rain & thunder happen'd at night. - On the 25th. of Sept. I sold 7 head of cattle (of) to Joshua Gates - at 11 dol'rs. per h'd - one dollar cheaper than I think they are really worth - I ow'd the man & had promis'd to pay him the specie, which is now verry scarce, he wanted it sooner than I could any way make it out to him; I found no other shift to make, but to let him have the cattle at his own terms. They were handsome creatures - two years-old last spring. I owe Gates not far from 40 dollars - or did owe him so much before he took the cattle, which was on Monday. He now owes me about that sum. We made no settlement before he went away - being at this time on his journey to Boston in partnership with Mr. Joseph House with a drove of cattle. I tried to get him to agree to pay me in western bank notes, (specie I, as well as anybody, will take it if it is offered to me) - but he would not, because it was so difficult to be procured - he promised me he'd do the best he could about it. - Now the Eastern bankbills go verry dull amongst us - some won't pass at all - & Vermont money but just lives. - This hurly-burly about banknotes makes great trouble among dealers - a stop will be put to it I hope but I know not when. -

SATURDAY OCT'R. 7th.

At early dawn sleep was driven from me on account of brother Ira's going a journey. He started off a little before sunrise - is to return on Tuesday - goes to the upper part of G'rt. barrington - 48 miles. -

Gather's 33 or 4 bushels winter apples - with much solicitation obtain'd some assistance from the females at this business. - Never was there finer weather - the sky clear & a gentle breeze N. W. - kept off violent heat. - Mr. & Mrs. Stark went from our house this morning. see p.

SUNDAY OCT'R. 8th.

I went to Church in the A. M. - come home P. M. - rode back in neighbor Parsons' chaise with my mother - never rode in that manner before, though I'm in my 48th. year. Pleasant P. M. but cloudy in the morning - warm.

MONDAY OCT'R. 9th.

Verry busy about diging potatoes. Finish'd this business in the fields. Wind S. verry warm.-

200 TUESDAY OCT'R. 10th. Nine in the morning - perhaps earlier, Ira my brother arriv'd from Great Barrington with the family of Mr. Ephraim Taylor & a small load of goods. He staid last (y) night in Pownal - Blackington's. For this journey Mr. Elisha Waters pays me either in money or his work Dolls. - He maried the third daughter of Mr. Taylor. G...Gather'd winter apples. - Uncle Zachariah's young people paid us a visit. - Warm in the extrem.

201 WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11th. Made cyder as we commonly say if we only get the apples ground as we did to-day and not press'd any, not having time to press it the same day. Fair and cool - wind N. W.

THURSDAY OCT. 12th. Today as also yesterday did Parsons's boys work'd for me. Gather a load of corn in the morning the remainder of the day gather'd apples & took care of the cyder. Mrs. Fay of Burlington (widow of John Fay Esq.) went from our house this morning - She is Dr. Jonas Fay's daughter - about 40 years of age. Monday morning Capt. M. Robinson's son came to me to get money which I owe him. Vermont money would not do. I told him I would do as well I could, and get him the money if possible. His son wanted the money to go to Williams College. I went at night to see Capt. Robinson, but found him not at (him) home, his son eased off the matter & let me go for the present without paying anything. - I was to have paid it by tomorrow night.

Should be his father

Sold to A. Waters a steer two yearsold for 12 dollars that day. -

FRIDAY OCT'R. 13th. Doctor Swift's apples were ground. I had business all about here & there & everywhere. Good weather, but some too warm to make cyder - S. wind blew heavily. -

SATURDAY OCT'R. 14th. Various businesses going on - it won't do any hurt if I don't mention all. A small flooring of wheat was trodden out by the horses - and Dr. Swift's cyder taken care of.

A rainy P. M. -

SUNDAY OCT'R. 15th. Such dull weather that nobody went to Church from Uncle Peter's.

MONDAY OCTOBER 16th. Dr. Swift's apples - ground last Friday made 8 barrels of cyder. Cyder made & apples gather'd . James Printis work'd here. Fair. -

201 TUESDAY OCTOBER 17th. Cyder stored - apples gather'd &c. - Yesterday - Mr. Taylor & Mr. Augur went from here in the morning - for Williston. Good weather. -

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18th. A load of corn gather'd and gathered apples in the P. M. - Verry fine weather - pretty warm.-

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19th. Gather'd apples & laid on a cheese of punise upon the press. Mr. Bliss & two of his daughters work'd in the orchard. Unaccountable fine weather. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 20th. Gather'd apples. Bliss & one of his girls, James Printis who had been here every day since Monday & Loan Dewey Jun'r part of the P. M. work'd here. Extremely good weather. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 21st. Some business. James Harwood brought from Wilmington my sheep - 21 in No. - 4 paid to Mr. Doty. - Loan Dewey & his son were here & work'd some for for themselves & some for me. Fine weather.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 22d. A fine day - all went to meeting. -

202 MONDAY OCTOBER 23d. Gather'd apples. Mr. Loan Dewey & brother Ira managed at the cyder-mill. I was absent in the A. M. getting work done at Major Norton's - at home P. M. Loan Dewey jun'r. work'd here - also James Harwood who will be here some time. -

My son this day became twenty one years of age - An awkard homespun fellow he is too, he never frequents company of any sort - has verry little ambition about work - not at all ingenious about getting along (~~with~~) business, not having acquainted himself with many little arts that are necessary for the quick dispatch of many sorts of work. He has a moderate (lovde) love for reading, but a memory like - or too much like a looking glass to profit much by what he reads. He writes a middling hand - possesses some knowledge of English Grammar - writes in a style agreeables to his character- Is fond of music - and a bungling performer on the fife & flute. After all his faults & oddities he is an inoffensive fellow - wishes every one to enjoy all the happiness they can find in this world. I am sorry to add that in arithmetic his knowledge reaches far short of the rule of three. And farther to do him justice I must mention, that he is acquainted in a verry limi- degree with geography - still less with history & is a would be politician. - Thus much to describe the character of my son - it can't be expected that a father should as impartially delineate the character of a son - an only son, whom he dearly loves; as an indifferent person ~~would~~.can. - A fine warm day. -

TUESDAY OCTOBER 24th. The same work continu'd except grinding apples. Loan Dewey did a half-day's work. I had business enough to take care of my cyder. - Good weather.- Mr. Stark - Mrs. Stark - her daughter Hall & young girl - a daughter of Squire Young of Williamstown, arriv'd here this P. M. on a visit. -

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25th. Same business again. Two of Prentis's boys were in my service. Was some of my time with my visitants, but not so as to interfere with my work. Mr. Marsh & his lady came to (a) our house last evening & paid a verry agreeable visit to Mr. Stark & ourselves - the (ch) conversation was cheering & instructibe. - Wind S. - warm.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 26th. Gather'd apples. Loan Dewey Jun'r. & Asher Prentis Jun'r. work'd for me. Mr. Loan Dewey & Ira ground Dr. Swift's apples & put them on the press. Pleasant. -

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27th. Gathering apples & looking after Dr. Swift's cyder form'd the duties of the day. A warm pleasant day. -

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28th. Commenc'd cutting up corn Mr. Dewey & his son assisted while it continu'd fair - they went home after dinner. It rained in the P. M. & we spent it husking corn in the barn. -

SUNDAY OCTOBER 29th. I & others of the family went to Church.- Fine weather. - Wind high in the S. -

MONDAY OCTOBER 30th. Husk'd corn in the barn. It rained pretty hard most of the day.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 31st. Ira & Hiram ground apples & put up a cheese of our own. Myself & James - my nephew-gather'd apples - onioins &c. - Good weather. -

October, this year, has been the pleasantest of any month that has preceded it since last January - and has been warmer some of the time than even in July & August. The only storm of much account was yesterday. - I've got my work along verry well. -

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 1st. The corn-stalks were gather'd in to a stack near the barn - One load of corn carried into the barn - Mr. Prentis' flax taken up - 200 bundles. Good weather - cloudy. -

THURSDAY NOV'R. 2d. A verry cloudy morning. Cut up & carried in corn, in the A. M. P. M. Waters' & Montague's flax was carried up to Waters's barn - Late in the evening before it was wholly accomplish'd. Some corn husk'd - cyder taken care of. Capt. Sage (S) sent teams & took away barrels of it. - Wind high in the S. - Cloudy. -

FRIDAY NOV'R. 3d. Rainy in the morning, but tolerable weather except high wind from the S. 'till night - it then began to rain verry hard. - Husking corn & making cyder (~~fro~~) for Dr. Swift - the business. Mr. Ezra Doty's people had apples & cyder of us today. - Sage's teams came & got aw away the remainder of his cyder. - He has had barrels of me for ware. -

SATURDAY NOV'R. 4th. Husking corn the employment - and has been almost every evening this week. The snow fell nearly all day - the ground being completely whiten'd at night - cold - wind N. W. -

SUNDAY NOV'R. 5th. Rough weather - nobody from our house went to Church. -

MONDAY NOV'R. 6th. Ira went to the fulling-mill. Hiram & James thresh'd oats - broke flails - some lazy on Hiram's part. Not much did I, - had two applications for my brown-mare, but could not accept of the terms offer'd. Rode to town at the close of the day - saw & convers'd with Col. Fay - he let me have a bunch of Auroras for Hiram to read.

Cold - snow did'nt. melt - ground frozen. -

TUESDAY NOV. 7th. The weather became more mild. A large cheese was laid on the cyder press. - Gather'd apples that had been over look'd. Verry cold morning. - wind S. -

WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 8th. Wind high from S. W. making it verry cold freezing the cyder as it flow'd from the cheese - which made it necessary for us to scald the cyder & pour it on & about the cheese so as to extract the cyder from it. Our pumpkins were brought out the field & secur'd today. - Mr. Hill & Mr. Marsh had 5 bbls. of cyder of me - Mr. Marsh receiving two of them. -

THURSDAY NOV. 9th. The last of the corn was cut up & drawn (it) into the barn. - Wind strong from the S. - some stormy - verry chilly - grew warmer toward night - cloudy. -

203 FRIDAY NOV. 10th. Rain'd - Husk'd corn - Took care of the press. -

SATURDAY NOV. 11th. Pretty cold, but we ground all our apples & laid the purnisce on the press. Ira went to Hoosack - going away after having laid up his cheese. Mr. William Norton had two barrels of cyder. Wind high in the N. W. - Verry cold in the evening. -

SUNDAY NOV. 12th. For want of waggon & horses & perhaps lacking a disposition for it, none of our family attended public worship. Rough blustering weather.

MONDAY NOV. 13th. Hiram & James Harwood went off to Petersburgh - York State. Finish'd husking corn & press'd out the remaind of the cyder in the cheese put up on Saturday - it being so cold yesterday as not to admit of its flowing. - I am bless'd this season with a good crop of corn - tho' sorry I am that thousands of farmers are denied little none. We get about 120 bushels of sound corn from four acres. -

This evening - made a settlement with J. Gates who bo't cattle of me in Sept., by which we found that he ow'd me $45..25 cents which he paid me on the spot.

Chilly, cloudy & a little stormy with hail at eve.

204 TUESDAY NOV. 14th. Quite rainy. Work'd at making cyder. -

WEDNESDAY NOV. 15th. Cold again. James & Hiram return'd from Mr. Greene's in Petersburg. Ended the business of making cyder.

THURSDAY NOV'R. 16th. I had my horses shod for the purpose of going to Troy. Ira & Hiram put away the gard(remaind) den sauce. Mild. -

FRIDAY & SATURDAY 17th. & 18th. Journey'd to & return'd from Troy - good waggoning. Paid to Mr. Pierce 21 dollars on my brother Jonas' account. (Vide p. 156) and paid 20 D. to Mr. Hart on my own account. Bo't a small quantity of codfish - Gordon's America, salt & other smaller articles to the amount of

Affairs in Troy Vide pages - 156 - 230.

Had good weather tho' rather cold in the morning Ira & Hiram spent then time in threshing and taking care of things. -

SUNDAY NOV. 19th. Went to Church. Cold.-

MONDAY NOV. 20th. A. M. I went (dow) to Capt. Norton's - saw

204 his new house - inside - did other small notions about home. Hiram went to Capt. Hendryx's & Ira to mill. P. M. Elisha Waters made a pair of doors to the horse stable & otherwise repair'd it - I assisted him. Ira & Hiram got out two or three loads of (D) dung.

Cold and some snowy. -

TUESDAY NOV. 21st. Receiv'd a letter from brother Jonas -

see p. 205 - Nov. 30th. -

This day, Wednesday & Thursday got out dung. - Thursday late in the P. M. Mr. Waterman (brother of James) arriv'd here. Weather uniformly cold during these 3 days.

FRIDAY NOV. 24th. It snow'd pretty hard. Threshed wheat.

SATURDAY NOV. 25th. Some threshing done. Went to mill - Hiram went to Hoosack to carry home miss Lucy Stone & apprentice - who have been toyloring for our people - paid her in grain. - Nov. 11th. -

Said it snow'd hard yesterday - why it was a pretty tedious storm; I'll admit, but the quantity of snow was small - not enough to made a sleigh go at all well. -

SUNDAY NOV. 26th. None of my peple could go to church on account of the absence of waggon and horses. I went myself on foot. Hiram arriv'd from Hoosack in the evening.

Calm - wind S. rainy at night. -

MONDAY NOV'R. 27th. It was about the 14th of this month that we closed making cyder. 75 barrels of cyder we have sold to the following persons; viz

To Messrs.T.C.&	A.Parsons	10	E. Doty	1
	B. Fasset	5	S. Harwood	1
	L. Dewey	1	Wm.Norton	3
	A. Prentis	1	Ms.Norton	2
	I. Hicks	4	Flakwell	1
	C. Cuhsman Junr.	4	Mn.Norton	6
	M. Sage	15	M.J. Lyman	2
	N. Dexter	3½	C. Hill	3
	A. Waters	1	D. Marsh	2
	E. Waters	1	L. Bliss	1
	D. Fay	2½	A. Strong	3
	I. Palmer	2		75

150 Cts. per bhl.

205 The produce of the orchard dispos'd of since the beginning of October amounts to $112.50 in cyder -

Names of gentlemen who bo't apples of Mr. Harwood this year.

~~Silas Harwood~~ bushels

Average price 16½ cts. per bhl.

and to $31.35c, in apples making an aggregate of $ 143.85
From this deduct for hired labor $ 21.00
and there remains D122.85cts.

We reckon 8 barrels consumed in the family & 30 in store, which with what is sold makes a total of 113 barrels of cyder extracted from P. Harwood's orchard in the year 1809.-

I made cyder for no other persons but Dr. Swift & 2 barrels for Col'n Fay. The Doctor Depends on my making his every season. He made 32 barrels this fall.

S. Hawze	3
T. Ault	13
Mt. Norton	30
A. Haswell	6
A. Waters	19½
E. Waters	15½
A. Prentis	2
I. Palmer	12
E. Doty	15
D. Marsh	10
N. Danforth	4
L. Bliss	9
N. Dexter	9½
S. Harwood	3½
M.J. Lyman	6
T.C.&A. Parsons	10
Ms. Norton	7
L. Dewey	8
C. Cushman	7
190 bushels plain	190 bhls!

My stock consists of	13 cows
A pair of steers	2
Yearlings	9
Calves	9
Sheep	34
Three working horses & 2 colts	- 5
Total	72 hd.

Of the stock I have sold 8 two yearsolds at 11 D's. per hd. and a cow to Mr. Samuel Robinson Jun'r. for 18 D's. since May last.

Of the flock sold 16 head - 3 dollars per head - 48 D's. 13 heads to Mr. S. Robinson Jun'r. - at 5/0 per hd, 10 D's. - 89½. Six heads to Mr. Ellis Doty in February at 150 C. per hd. & four head more in October at 2 D's. per hd. to pay for pasturage & four hds. to Mr. Sterns - same price of the last - 25D's.

I shear'd 52 sheep this season - whose fleeces weigh'd 140 lbs.

(	16 hd.	48 D.	
(	13 -	10 -	89 cts.
(	14 -	25	
(Total	43	83 D.	& 89½

Our wool is only sufficient for our own consumption.

The sum total of the stock sold 9 hd. 106 D.

The crops according to the best calculation 129½ bushels of wheat 142 D.'s Rye 9½ bhls 5 D's. Corn 20 bhl. 10 D. Sold 116) The cyder 75 barrels 122 D. 856 Apples 190 bush'l D. 31..66

The grain is of last year's growth.

TEUSDAY NOV'R. 28th. & WEDNESDAY NOV'R. 29th

Shoveling & drawing manure (R) Black, muddy, cloudy, frozen weather. -

205 THURSDAY NOV'R. 30th. Same business. Warm pleasant - the only day almost in the month of that cast. Cold & cloudy generally speaking, from beginning to end. Many days seem'd like tight winter - thick ice - the ground frozen firm as pavement, but not much snow - only one flurry about the beginning, & another pretty harsh storm of snow on the 24th. of the month. We were some troubled with frost before we could get thro' with making cyder, but as to other sorts of work we were verry fortunate in getting it done in good season.

Besides doing detatch'd pieces of work - our greatest employment has been (~~at~~) making cyder & drawing manure.

Brother Jonas writes under date of 29th. of October concerning the payment of the interest of the debt due on his land. (See p. 209) He tells us of the magnitude of his crops - of his wants &c.

It is enident that he had not reciv'd my letter of 24th. of Sept.

206 THURSDAY DECEMBER 1ST. was with respect to the weather a picture of human life - the sky being clear in the morning - the sun gently warming the air - everything wearing the pleasantest aspect that can be conceived at this season; but this was succeeded by clouds before midday - by raw chilly wind in the P. M. & ended in thick clouds & rain with the day. Last evening felt of Mr. Hunt to know if he would settle the affair of the 13th. of Sept. (p.144) Found him stubborn - determin'd to stand a lawsuit. - I left him with the same resolution, rather than submit to his conditions. Fairly, I settle; unfairly, I leave it to an impartiail jury to decide. -

SATURDAY DEC. 2d. Rainy. No business done. -

SUNDAY DEC'R. 3d. Went to Church - heard Marsh - A. M. Downer P. M....Chilly & muddy. -

MONDAY DEC. 4th. Got our dung. Frozen & clear - wind N.

TUESDAY DEC. 5th. A load of manure, perhaps the last to be got out this year, was carried out - a load of wood drawn for Ira - the first load of that kind since last March - if I rightly reccollect. At one house a considerable quantity of last winter's stock of wood still remains. -

WEDNESDAY DEC'R. 6th. I ought to have added to yesterday that during the P. M. it rain'd a good deal from the S. - verry muddy. - Rain'd verry much all this day.

206 THURSDAY DEC'R. 7th. Thanksgiving. A verry harsh storm of rain kept us from Church. Had but 1 person, not belonging to the family, that supped with us - Mr. W. Waterman. Ira wife & 2 children & James Harwood beside the ordinary family took seats at the table. -

FRIDAY DEC. 8th. Attended chiefly to friends who came to visit us. Mr. Ezra Doty, wife & 2 children, Brother Ephraim & sister Sarah Taylor agreeably passed the P. M. at our house & concluded to wait for another day to depart. Mr. P. Smith was accidentally shot through (~~let~~) the leg at a shooting match near his father's house. -

Cloudy & not verry cold.

SATURDAY DEC. 9th. Verry rainy in the A. M. P. M. no rain, but dull & cloudy. Mr. Doty & his folks, Mr. & Mrs. Taylor departed for their respective homes.

Pumroy Smith, the lad whose leg was wounded yesterday, was this day about 12 o'clock bolig'd to undergo the severe operation of amputation - his leg being taken off a little below his knee by Dr.. Porter in the presence of other physicians & a number of spectators, - he bore it with astonishing fortitude. - All the business done was, that of the boys threshing a few shieves of wheat. - Pumroy Smith is about 15 years of age.

SUNDAY DEC. 10th. It was such disagreeable traveling and our appetites so poor for preaching, as entirely to discourage any of our people from going to Church. -

MONDAY DEC. 11th. Butcher'd hogs. Mr. Wm. Norton & Mr. E. Taylor assisted. The following is the weight of the pork - viz

- - - -187 lb.
- - - -199
- - - -178
- - - -259
- - - -209
- - - -203
- - - -181

Total 1416 Pork

Beef including hide & tallow. -

Ira was sent to Capt. J. E. Robinson's with a hog weighing 199 lbs. ~~of~~.

Moderately cold. -

TUESDAY DEC. 12th. Cut up & pack'd away our pork - Ira his, & I my own. Hiram drew a load of wood. Foggy in the vallies - clear on the surrounding hills and mountains. - Something of a muddy day. -

WEDNESDAY DEC. 13th. Not much done. A gentleman who came from the other side of the E. mountain yesteday says
207 says that when on the mountain this side of Divers temen the sun shone bright, but all the low country

before him was entirely enveloped in fog as far the eye could extend, unless some mountain rais'd itself above the surface of the sea of mist. The sight must have been (cou) curious and singular. The trees made an appearance not less singular. The mist being frozen on the trees & other objects to which it adhered, became almost as white as snow. - Fruit-trees carried an aspect not unlike May. While this was the case in the lowlands, on the mountains the trees had no frost n not anything of the kind on them. A warm day follow'd.-

WE) THURSDAY DEC. 14th. About this time had a verry sick turn.
On Wednesday Mr. Millerd bro't a letter from brother Asa who lives in Sempronius - State of N. York - in which he enumerates his troubles in a few words, consisting principally of sickness & poverty. He thinks he could do pretty well if he had his land paid for; which requires only the small sum 182 - Dolls.
If I say right it was warm - wind S.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 15th. Settled accounts with T. C. & A. Parsons who had charg'd on book about dollars to me - & against them my account was nearly 51 dolls.

SATURDAY DEC'R. 16th. Hiram began to go to School to Mr. Phil Blair on of this month. We drew up 3 loads of wood. Cold. -

SUNDAY DEC. 17th. Mr. Marsh & somebody else preach'd.

MONDAY DEC. 18th. To DEC. 22d. Making racks - threshing a few bushels & attending to some other notions constituted the principal part of the business. Mr. Taylor assisted at that business days.
20th. - receiv'd the payment of a note which I held for brother Jonas against Andrew Aylesworth. The principal amounted to $5.50 C. - being dated Feb. 1805 the interest amounted to $1.50 - all together to $7.00.
Within these four days it was pretty mild weather - some mud aboard. -

FRIDAY DEC. 23d. Ira & his lady went to Mr. Hinsdill's Fulling-mill. Nothing of great moment done at home. Went to town in the evening - in order to consult with my attorney on the subject of a lawsuit which I am going to commence tomorrow - against one of my neighbors. Hiram went to Squire Smiths to watch with Pumory.
THURSDAY night there came a small sleighable snow - which has been well improved today. Also that evening settled accounts with Mr. Sellon & pass'd recepts. Weather suitable to the season.

207 SATURDAY DEC. 24th. Went to Court with my witnesses - expecting a trial, but the other party was for putting it off - to which I agreed - or to speak more properly - my counsel so agreed. Finally I was not prepar'd this morning. - Mr. Robinson (Samuel jun) one of my prencipal witnesses, not getting on to the ground till past the appointed time. (This Court affair consum'd the greatest part of the day - only had time to get one load of wood, & do the necessary offices about the barn. Cold - N. W. wind. -

SUNDAY DEC 25th. Went to meeting in the P. M. only. Verry cold - wind South at night.

208 MONDAY DEC. 25th. Being the day for the trial of the cause between myself & Mr. Hunt, I went on prepar'd - but before it had fairly commenced Hunt call'd me aside & began to talk with me about leaving it to referees. - I hesitated, - replyed that I could do nothing with out counsel - Ah, says he, they'll tell you to go on with it - they'll tell you that you will certainly get your cause, my attorneys tell me that I am sure of my cause. However, I advis'd with Mr. Skinner & Mr. Robinson about it - they former said go on with it, the latter advis'd the contrary - with his opinion I concurred - Went back to Hunt and after several gentlemen propos'd by him, & rejected by me, we finally agreed upon one to be the third man.... Here I shall (have) drop the subject 'till further proceedings. -

The day was taken up mostly at court. -
Thawy - & some rainy - wind S.
On Saturday leg a coe to Exra Doty

TUESDAY DEC. 26th. Chopp'd wood on the rocks W. of the house. Ira absent much of the day - not verry well. Hiram got a horse shod at Maj'r Norton's - spent several hours at Young's office. Thawy - rained before night. -

WEDNESDAY DEC. 27th. Were all in the woods chopping.

The wind came about this morning & blew us a fine snow-storm in the P. M. Not much frost in the ground.

Last evening, a school meeting was held at Mr. Elijah Fay's Jun'r. at which only five of the district were present, but according to a farmer decision, enough to do business - viz Mr. John Norton, Mr. Jesse Loomis, Mr. Willard Greene, Mr. E. Fay Jun'r. & myself.

The Question to be decided was, whether Mr. Phillip Blair, under whose care the school had heretofore been, should continue the school any longer?
After examining his hand-writing, which was of a verry inferior kind, & his orthography - comparing it with the information receiv'd from schollars of the great-

208 animously agreed that Mr. Blair immediately dismiss the school, - which accordingly he did this day.

Never were men worse imposed upon than those belonging to this school-distirct! Several candidates had offer'd themselves & were all rejected except this Mr. ~~Bl~~ Blair - who first introduc'd himself to Capt. Norton as an accomplish'd schoolmaster - pretending to understand English Grammar, Latin Grammar &c - all verry smooth and clever - he even offer'd to teach a class of latin scholars. About he went through the district with his (sub) subscription paper, which bore the marks of a mere boyish performance, & obtain'd signers enough so as to set up a school. He had two scholars who studied English Grammar, one of whom could parse considerably & in reciting to him she would ask him if she was wrong when she knew by her rules that she was wrong, - he would reply that she was right. On the other hand if she was positive in knowing by her book that she was right - on asking him if she was wrong - he would tell her she was.

In spelling and reading, he was miserable - beyond all conception for a schoolmaster. I will give one or two instances of his spelling. He wrote for a
209 copy "Remember the saboth day to keep it holey". In spelling the work ~~few~~ few - he writes "fue" - and for Jesse - "gessy" - for Hiram "Hyram" - such mistakes as I have quoted, (~~ceen~~) occur in almost every line of his writing. One evening he undertook to read in Franklin's life before Mr. William Norton's family - he blush'd when he took the book - & made a wretched work of reading - hamming - stammering & spelling & hitching along in a cruel manner - like a new beginner.-

THURSDAY DEC. 28th. Mr. Shoals hired a horse of me to go to Vergeenes - sets off this morning. By him I have written a letter to brother Jonas. It states that our family, except Father, who is afflicted with a dangerous sore in the inside of one his jaws, is in usual health. That I had agreed with Gov'r. Tichenor to take a note of me for a sum equal to the interest on the debt that, he (Jonas) owes to Hopkins for his land. (This arrangement about my giving a note to Tichenor, was agreed upon between me & Mr. Hopkins a year ago last March, Hopkins owes Tichenor a considerable sum & Tichenor only wants the interest of it - that's the reason why I am to give (at) a note to him. He has often - or at least been spoken to several times by me about having the business settled, that is, to take a note, but for some reason or other he always put it off - saying that he would soon call at my house & have it done - & he han't come yet) The letter goes on to give an account of another receiv'd of Brother Asa (see p. 207) and gives him encouragement about receiving some small supplies of family necessaries. He's inform'd of my anxiety to see him, of the necessity of keeping up a communication by letter & the utility of of letter-writing - it concludes in the usual form.

In the P. S. The accident which happen'd to young Smith. -

Paid Phillip Blair - school-master.

Business of not much importance.

Rather snowey & blustering from the N. W.

Hiram studied arithmetic.

FRIDAY DEC. 29th. Got wood. Good weather. Good sledding.-

SATURDAY DEC. 30th. Ira & Hiram drew up 3 or 4 loads of wood from the meadow & elsewhere.

Late in the day went town with (Mrs) Mrs. Harwood.

A thaw is suppos'd brewing, wind South. -

SUNDAY DEC. 30th. From the beginning up to the 21st. of this month, there was no sleighing and but little freezing weather, but a good deal rainy & muddy. The first sleighing happen'd on the 22d which held on, with tolerable cold weather, till the 25th., a south wind & rain put a period to it. - 27th. had another snow storm before the ground had time to freeze - the snow which then fell with some addition since - sticks by, to the end of the year. -

My business has gone on in nearly the same old track that it has done every year at this season - Could get about nothing of a steady character - unless it may be said of the continual fluctuation of my affairs. -

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MONDAY JAN'Y. 1st. Had good success in getting wood till toward the close of the day - when we had the misfortune to break our sled, which put a stop to our "buzzness" - (as the old scoth peddler us'd to say) for the present. Hiram sudied arithmetic. Good weather. -

TUESDAY JAN'Y. 2d. Taken up in repairing the sled. Ira went off early in the morning & got the horses shod - got back about 2 in the P. M. As soon as they could fix away Hiram & Lydia went on a visit at Hoosack-falls. Sheighing middling good, wind S. Pleasant & warm. -

WEDNESDAY JAN'Y. 3d. Mr. Taylor finish'd working on the sled. Ira & I thresh'd some rye. Hiram and Lydia got home from the falls - reported all well except Mr. Daniel Northrop who is just gone with the consumption. They bro't home Miss Ruth Smith with them.

Thick clouds in the A. M. but less so P. M. wind S. snow going off. -

Mr. Ellis Doty arriv'd here from Wilmington. Mr. Montague & Mr. Ferrol spent the evening here in a jovial strain. -

THURSDAY JAN'Y. 4th. Thresh'd some wheat - Let Mr. Merril have 2 bushels. Ira & Mr. Doty mov'd 2 or 3 loads of hay & ground an axe. -

James Harwood went home on Monday. He left me & has work'd chiefly for Gov'r. Robinson till the latter part of last week. He has made a poor tilt of it.

Sleighing is ruin'd & it is warm & muddy. -

FRIDAY JAN'Y. 5th. Mr. Doty purchas'd a few bhls. of grain which with some other articles made up a small load for him - the sleighing being gone between here & the mountain, it was found necessary for us to help him away (not on account of getting rid of him, for he is good company) with the waggon - with which Ira went as far as Mr. Mr. Diver's - It was nearly night when he got back. Tho't hard about sending 6 of my calves over to Wilmington to have them winter'd there, but concluded to put to put it off for the present, thinking to form a better judgement bye & bye of my capacity to keep them.

Myself & son work'd in the barn at moving grain so as to get at our hay.

High wind from the S. - began snowing about 1 in the P. M., but this was afterward follow'd by rain. The ground was slightily frozen in the morning. -

210 SATURDAY JAN'Y. 6th. I & my son thresh'd rye. Ira had business by himself - grinding axes & mending up a hand-sled.
Quite rainy more than half the day - when it didn't rain the air was verry still & muggy - however the wind started up some from the N. at night.

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 7th. Sacrament day, Mr. Marsh preached. Verry muddy - bad traveling - waggoning was never worse. Mild during the day - cloudy - wind high from the N. W. at night. -

MONDAY JAN'Y. 8th. Work'd in the woods. Hiram at his arithmetic.
Pleasant winter weather. -

TUESDAY JAN'Y. 9th. Thresh'd out our peas, Sept. 12th. - measur'd 4 bushels - grew on half an acre.
A harsh south windblew all day, but it reduc'd the rigor of the cold verry much from what it was in the morning and bro't on a flury of snow. -

211 WEDNESDAY JAN'Y. 10th. The wind was S. th & we concluded a thaw was coming, therefore Ira and Hiram got up a couple of loads of wood. I winnow'd & measur'd the peas which reminded me of the saying "a great cry and little wool".

THURSDAY JAN'Y. 11th. Brother Ira and I thresh'd oats. -
Yesterday was warm & rainy - wind S. - wind in the same direction today - warm & thawy - frost nearly or quite out of the ground in the road. Rode to town in the P. M. & never witness'd much worse riding. -
In the evening a terrible squall of rain & snow commenc'd & lasted most of the night - snow'd considerably and became pretty cold before morning. -

FRIDAY JAN'Y. 12th. Measur'd up some oats in the A. M. & trod out wheat in the P. M. -
Cold. The snow which fell last night is not sufficient for sleighing - the ground under it was not frozen - and it was thin & blown off verry much.

SATURDAY JAN'Y. 13th. Verry much engag'd at threshing - or more properly at treading wheat with three horses. In this way we have trodden out shocks since yesterday.
Wind S. - verry chilly in the forepart of the day - before night became quite mild. -
A peddler of drygoods happen'd here on of whom we purchas'd several articles to the amount of
On Thursday A Mr. Dix, brother to Samuel Dix who

211 was here on the of last Sept., says that Mr. Horatio G. Doty is doing well in a sawmill on north River miles above fort Edward, from which place this gentleman immediately came. -

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 14th. It should be mention'd that some time last week Mr. Daniel Northrop departed this life after (~~hap~~) having suffer'd a long time under the pangs of his disease - the consumption. Mr. Charles Cushman died yesterday - much lamented by all who knew him. His remains were inter'd this day, with the usual solemnities.-

Turned out to Church pretty generally in this family - tho' sleighs were us'd by most of the people in getting to the meeting, - yet our own folks were convey'd there in a waggon.

Mild weather - wind S. -

MONDAY JAN'Y. 15th. Ira & Hiram drew 4 small loads of wood - the sledding was bad. I was verry busy in the barn - at winnowing wheat - of which I measured 25 bushels.

A warm pleasant day - wind S. -

TUESDAY JAN'Y. 16th. Employ'd chiefly in the barn. - Carried my mother to Mr. Montagues on a visit - Ira gone nearly all day on business at Hinsdill's fulling-mill & in town.

Weather contin'd much as it had been. -

WEDNESDAY JAN'Y. 17th. Ground (axees) axes - P. M. Chop'd wood in the forrest. Hiram, in consequence of having receiv'd information that Mr. Wm. Haswell could be had to teach school in this district, with the advice of the elders or chief men of the district, went this P. M. & notified a school-meeting - to be holden at the school house tomorrow evening. -

Thawy dabbling nasty weather - wind S. -

212 THURSDAY JAN'Y. 18th. Chopped wood in the woods. Came home early on account of its begginning to snow. Mrs. Robinson & Mrs. Hitchcock - visiting here.

Mr. James Walworth came to our house with his brother Benj'n. - to know my mind about the latter's taking our school; but before I got home they had gone on down to the S. part of the district - to consult them on the subject. -

In the evening Mr. Parsons & I attended school meeting - at which were present Esquire Jewett, Mr. Loomis Mr. John Norton, Mr. Wm. Norton, Mr. Elijah Fay Jun'r. besides Mr. Parsons & myself. There was not much formality about the business in any stage of it; Mr. Jewett enquired, who it was that stood as candidate for a teacher? - Mr. J. Norton quickly replied that Mr. Walworth was the gentleman in view - and without farther ceremony it was agreed that he

212 should take the school. After Esquire Jewett had crack'd a few jokes & the rest had laugh'd sufficiently at them, the school meeting dissolv'd. - (I ought to have mention'd that Mr. Asher Prentis was one of the meeting)

This meeting was call'd for the purpose of knowing, in the first place, whether they would employ Mr. Haswell? - because when notified, no other person had made application - so that in strict propriety, and certainly to show good breeding - he should have been the first person propos'd. But instead of that, although Mr. Haswell was present, not a word - not a nod - not a whisper was directed to him by an individual of the meeting! As he had been first spoken of by Mr. Parsons & me - who had intended not to take the lead in the business - knowing that all the rest knew, as well as ourselves, what should be done - and considering our standing, with regard to some points - that is to say plainly - with respect to politics, to be rather delicate - we chose rather to be silent. As to politicks it is an indifferent thing with me or neighbor Parsons - whether a schoolmaster be a democrat or a federalist, if he understand his business well. I scarsely had a choice in the two candidates - Mr. Haswell & Mr. Walworth, I as well as the district in general knew nothing of their education, - both being young & neither of them (hagving) having ever taught school before - if anything I rather prefer'd Mr. Walworth on account its being said that he understood english grammar - & (Mr.) that Mr. Haswell did not perfectly understand it, - and besides the latter was rather under size. But what I would be at is, to have people use good manners. Was it using Mr. Haswell like a gentleman to call a school-meeting of the district to know whether they would employ him as a schoolmaster - he giving his personal attendance - & then right in his face & eyes to treat him with such profound neglect? - (I think) I think such (conducct) conduct can hardly be justified in men who know what constitutes right & wrong. -

Wind blew verry hard all day from the S. and just at night it snow'd some, - in the (eve) night - wind got round N. W. - became verry cold.

213 FRIDAY JAN'Y. 19th. Winter is a stern old gentleman - I never fancied his embraces verry much, - however I tho't I had liv'd long enough in the world to have been well acquainted with him ere this, - but he blew a blast this day of which I hardly tho't him capable. Thinking it rather too cold to do much at home, I concluded on going to town to do some errands there &c. - so I push'd off - little suspecting the opposition I was to meet with from the severrity of the weather. Before I reach'd Mr. Montague's (a distance of little more than half a mile) the cold had taken such fast hold of me that I was oblig'd to rally every spark of resolution within me, to reah his house. From

213 thence I proceeded as far as Mr. E. Waters's - & was glad there to warm. With Mr. Waters I went to McEowen & Robinson's - no urging was necessary to induce me to draw near their fire - from hence went on to Court-house - and there spent most of the day. My return home was not attended with much difficulty.

Cold so intense I think never was experienc'd in this country since my rememberance. The wind blew violently all the preceding (day) night & the whole of this day. Rivers, ponds & brooks which were before open, were immediately shut over with solid ice - and few rooms were so warm as to prevent water freezing in vessels standing a few feet from the fire. -

SATURDAY JAN'Y. 20th. As cold, & I believe more freezing & less windy than yesterday.

Pass'd away the time as agreebly as I could reading Gordon's America. - Took good care of my cattle.

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 21st. Held on as cold as the two preceding days - though it was perceivable towards the close of the day that the cold had moderated considerably. Not cloudy. Nobody belonging to the family went to Church.O

MONDAY JAN'Y. 22d. Mr. Asa Doty came here on Friday last from Stamford on his way to the western part of the state of N. York. He pursues his journey on foot. Mr. Wallace of the same place tarried here last night.

Thresh'd rye - Ira & Hiram got up some wood. Verry cold in the morning, but it gradually grew warmer towards night. -

TUESDAY JAN'Y. 23d. Ira drew wood for Ault. My business the same as yesterday.

Wind S. - snow'd a little just at night - mild.

WEDNESDAY JAN'Y. 24th. As my employment was on Monday so it was today, however didn't pursue it with great spirrit. (How many r's. does it take to spell the word spirit.) Ira was ill of the jaw ache. Snow'd by turns moderately all day.

THURSDAY JAN'Y. 25th. Threshing and shoeing the sled made my principal business. Ira went to mill.

214 He also carried miss Patience Smedly to uncle Zachariah's - William Smedly, her brother, tarried here last night.

FRIDAY JAN'Y. 26th. Mr. Dicks tarried here last night - he's on his way to Fort Edward.

214 Mr. Benj'n Walworth commenced keeping school in this district on Tuesday last.

Ira and Hiram got wood. Rather cool & clear. - Stormed last night, but clear to-day. Pretty cold.

I finish'd off the threshing of the rye.

Sometime this week Ira receiv'd from brother Jonas a letter in answer to 2 written on one sheet by him (Ira) and myself about the 25th. Sept. He writes favorably. - See p. 222 - more plain 232.

SATURDAY JAN'Y. 27th. Was desirous of winnowing rye but had poor success - could got no wind. Ira and Hiram 2 loads of wood - Ira went to mill.

Mild - air still - pleasant. -

SUNDAY JAN'Y. 28th. Went to Church. Cold & clear.

MONDAY JAN'Y. 29th. Had an exceeding cold job of winnowing a few bushels of rye. Ira assisted me about this - & when (that) finish'd, we made it our business to tread out the spring-wheat, which was accomplish'd in one flooring. Verry cold - in the morning the wind was hight from N. W. -

TUESDAY JAN'Y. 30th. A few (hon) hundreds of hay into the horse-stable - P. M. got wood.

Verry cold morning - but a pleasant day. -

WEDNESDAY JAN'Y. 31st. Ira and Hiram got 4 loads of wood - Hiram went to mill - carried a small grist - and Mrs. Street, miss Melissa Street & miss Polly Norton rode with him. It was still air till late in the P. M. - a light breeze sprang up - first from the S. - then from N. W. which enabled me to winnow my spring-wheat. - Mild - cloudy - signs of a thaw. -

In three or four of the first days of this month a sleigh would run tolerably slick, but a thaw soon spoiled it - and since then traveling of that kind has been verry difficult. The weather continu'd pretty mild till the 19th. at which time the most intense cold sat in that was ever known in this country - and lasted till the 21st. Nothing uncommon as to the weather happened during the remainder of the month. -

215 THURDDAY FEB'Y. 1st. We all worked at getting wood. Much mumuring among the people on account of there being no sleighing. Almost every hour in the day some inquiry is made about the weather - all signs are strictly watch'd but if for snow - fail.

Mr. Ellis Doty went from here this morning to return to (Will) Wilmington. He's going to let me have, James, my nephew, to work for me again (see p.)

Mr. Doty had $10.50 cts. of grain of me at this time

215 5 bhls of wheat $1.50 per bhl. - one bushel of corn & 2 bhls. of rye - at a dollar per bhl. each.
Mr. Joseph Thomas arriv'd here this evening.
Cloudy in the morning and cold, but clearer in the P. M. - not verry cold. -

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 2d. Ira & Hiram brought home 6 loads of wood as we did yesterday. I was in town nearly all day - Paid up Capt. Moses Robinson jun the whole of his demands against me which was now but dolls; although four years ago next March amounted to 65 dollars. -
This debt came upon me by (sowing) signing two notes, which together amounted to 65 dollars, given on of March 1806.
Fine weather, but severely cold in the morning. -

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 3d. Got four loads of wood - left off getting wood that we might go to mill, but afterwards concluded otherwise. Provided wood for Sunday. My father assur'd me that it would snow before Monday. -

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 4th. An attendance by myself & several others of the family, was given to public worship. Dry and cold. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 5th. Ira & I threshed oats together in the A. M. I work'd (a lon) alone at that business in the P. M. - and he went with mother & Ruth Harwood - to Mr. Ezra Doty's - leaving the former at his house & the latter at Mr. Zachariah Harwood house. In the evening James Harwood & his feiend Uzzias Dix arriv'd here from Wilmington.
Hiram studied arithmetic.
Rather blustering - squally - wind N. W.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY Weather nearly uniform, without being too cold or too warm. Our business was likewise unchange I continued threshing oats and James, Ira & Hiram drew up 6 loads of wood each day. On Tuesday Mr. Thomas departed for home in Hardwick, VT. Thursday (evevening) evening Brother Taylor & aunt Sarah & Mrs. Patty Waters Paid us a visit.

FRIDAY FEB. 9th. Pretty cold P. M.; though something like a snow-storm in the morning and rather mild - at night it was clear & stingingly cold. Four loads of wood were drawn - and Mother & Ruth were brought home by Ira.(threshing was my) Threshing was my employment.-

216 SATURDAY FEB'Y 10th. Winnow'd 52 bushels of oats - Ira drew a load of wood to the school house he also got a load

for Mr. Ault. James, besides cutting wood (d) at home, chopped that which was carried to the school house - fit for the stove.
Cold wind N.

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 11th. Thought it too cold to go to meeting - Spentthe day in reading.(In) In the evening attended a meeting at Mr. Prentiss'.
Though it was a keen morning - yet the weather became more moderate before the day ended. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 12th. Wheat - three floorings - trodden by the horses - under the care of myself and Ira assisted some by Hiram, who with James chopp'd wood at the door. There came a flurry of snow to-day. - We at one time flattered ourselves that we should have sleighing - but in the (seg) sequel were disappointed.

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 13th. It fell to my lot to be(g) a juror. - The Supreme Court open'd its sesion in this town to-day- I attend tomorrow. Went down to neigbor Sellon's, in the morning, to take pay of him for the use a horse, which he had lately to go a journey of 70 or 80 miles. He agreed to pay me in dry goods - but had not yet bro't them to his house. - I return'd without my pay - bringing with me his (day) daughter Sukey on a visit to our house.
No wood was drawn in the A. M. P. M. attemted to winnow, but could not, on account of the want of wind. The young men got wood.
Uncle Stephen was here on a visit - and wanted to make a bargain with me - but did not succeed. Fine weather in the morning - but some squally a little before night - Not cold. - wind N. -

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 14th. Took my seat as a juror. The jury had no cause before them this day.
Hiram & James went with Ira in the morning to getting wood - with a prospect of doing something clever- but were disconcerted - Hiram had to winnow and Ira in the P. M. (br) broke off from his business to carry Jonathan Fasset, sen'r. to Judge Robinson's. The old fellow came here unwell - Dr. Swift told me he was going to have a settled fever - I (h) tho't it high time to dismiss him - therefore we carried him off to his sister's - and were glad to get (to) rid of him so. Fine day as ever was seen - wind gently from the N.

THURSDAY FEB'Y. 15th. A case of a verry intricate nature came before the jury - which was not agreed upon till about 7 o'clock on Friday morning. At home the boys got 2 loads of wood and then quit the woods on account of its

216 storming - but the storm blew off - tho' when it began
out hopes were raised in favor of receiving a great
217 body of snow; - the wind continued steadily blowing
from (s) the S. - some of the time blew pretty hard -
began raining at night. Before the end of the day they
got another load of wood. They also brought 26 bushels
of wheat from the barn to the house, a part of which
I winnowed this morning before I went to Court.

FRIDAY FEB'Y. 16th. Continued at Court (d) all day. No cause was given to the jury. Felt sleepy, and was glad to be dismiss'd.

Ira and Hiram trod wheat with the horses. James chopped wood at the door.

Verry fine weather.

SATURDAY FEB'Y. 17th. A man was tried to-day for counterfeiting money - found guilty. His name is Royal Freeman - a resident in Berkshire County - Mss.

Ira & Hiram pursued the same business that they did yesterday. They finish'd treading wheat - I've no more English grain of any kind now to get out. James assisted at the barn and chopp'd wood. Verry clear - still & warm.

SUNDAY FEB'Y. 18th. Attended divine service in the A. M., P. M. rode down to brother Samuel Robinson jun'r's to know how they did there - having understood that sister Sarah was quite unwell. -

Found my sister better than I had expected to find her. Miss Lucy Robinson was there taking care of her. Returned home in the evening about the time that people commonly go (for) from meeting. Fair. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 19th. On jury. Samuel Blakely - tried for horse stealing and found guilty. He was a youngster of 20 years - belonging to Dorset. It was a verry rainy day - mud remarkably deep.

TUESDAY FEB. 20th. Bildad Eason was bro't on this morning for trial; he cut the business short, by pleading guilty - to a charge of theft. Soon after he was out of the way the Grand Jury came in & presented (6) 6 true bills to the (Cou) Court. The foreman stated to the Court that a number of complaints in writing had been forwarded to them without the name of the informer being sign'd, which they considerd as an insult upon their honor - therefore they did not proceed to investigate the crimes therein alleged but delivered them into the hands of the Court - whose opinion was delivered by Judge Tyler in a clear & Perspicuous manner - setting forth the impropriety there would be in the

217 Grand Jury's taking notice of such (cop) complaints that if the practice should by countenanced, it would bring much unnecessary expence on the State &c - he went on to a considerable length - followed by the
218 other Judges who added but few words to what had already been said. The Grand Jury being withdrawn, Judge Tyler asked the States Attorney if he had any further business to lay before the Pettit Jury - to which he answered in the negative. He then in a verry handsome & complimentary address dismissed the Petty Jury from farther attendance at Court - at the present term. The jury withdrew to a room by themselves & settled their accounts with the Clerk of the Court - and then separated. Receiv'd 7 D.'s - 12 C. for my services as juror. -

In the P. M. heard the sentences of the prisoners deliver'd. It was a solemn scene. Blakely the youngest of them, was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment in the State Prison - for horse-stealing. Freeman for counterfeiting - seven years, imprisonment. Bildad Eason - aged between 71 & 72 years - for stealing money - sentences 3 years inprisionment in the State Prison. Return'd from town at night. A good day for business - that is, if a man work'd at chopping or getting out flax, but if he wished to draw wood - or set out on a journey - a much worse time could not be chosen The ground was full of water - of course the mud was deep - and traveling difficult. Mr. Charles Cushman's widow & her family mov'd out of town today - they furture residence will be in Dorset.

James - Ira James attended Court yesterday - & Hiram today.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21st. Was desirous of having my wheat winnow'd a part of it had been done yesterday - that I measured and a few bushels more, but had no good wind so, perplex'd as I was, I was oblig'd to give it up 'till the wind should blow. - Ira, James and Hiram work'd on the wood-pile.

What you may call sour-weather we had to comfort us today. Wind W. cloudy, cold - a fine sort of rain came out the clouds in the morning and glax'd everything on which fell, with ice. . .Blot! blot!!! blot!!!

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22d. Succeeded in getting my wheat winnow'd, measur'd & carried in to the house. I have no more of this grain to (thr) thresh. Sold 2 barrels of cyder to Major Norton - which Wm. Beement carried home from hence. James & Ira - or Ira & James pursued the business they about yesterday. Cyder is 2 dollars per bbl.

Clear & some thawy.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23d. I and my son thresh'd oats. Ira & James on the wood pile.

Good weather. -

218 SATURDAY FEB'Y. 24th. Business but little varied from what it was yesterday. Washed our calves with tobacco juice. Warm - cloudy - wind S. -

219 SUNDAY FEB'Y. 25th. Went to Church. Bad traveling - my horses were much put to it to draw the waggon. Cloudy - wind S. - rain'd in the evening. -

MONDAY FEB'Y. 26th. Winnow'd and measured 36 bushels of (Oa) oats, which are the last I have to thresh. The boys - or rather young men as they would wish to be called - worked on the wood-pile and carried bags of oats from the barn to the house - Come to reccollect they did'nt carry in oats verry much - nor did they chop verry steadily on account of its raining some part of the day. Warm and rainy in the morning - before night it became cold and clear'd off. -

TUESDAY FEB'Y. 27th. The barn-floor was clear'd of oats - I and my son made it our business to thre thresh corn - were assisted by Ira and James whose main business was that of chopping wood. The wind was N. and cold - blew high at night.

WEDNESDAY FEB'Y. 28th. My work turned to no great profit today. (Ira and James were employ'd) - My Father is now afflicted, and has been for several months, with a sore within his jaw. He has applied to Dr. Porter for relief - but he could afford him none. Dr. Swift has doctored him for it, but can do nothing to remove the difficulty. He was desirous of having the advice of Dr. Banister in the case; - therefore Ira went to Pownal and got him to (him) (to) come and see him. Ira perform'd the journey on foot - a distance of 5½ miles- and arriv'd here before the Dr. who was on horseback. Banister tells ~~told~~ my Father that if he would be careful, his jaw will get well. He (prescribed) directed that a plaister should be kept on his face &c - went home again. (he) His charges were Clean'd the (cop) cobs of corn fit to burn (my father's notion), and brought them into the house. James work'd on the woodpile. I went to town P. M. and tarried there 'till sometime in the evening - talked with Col'n Fay about my (Hunt) Hunt case - was well satisfied with what he said about it. He is one of the refferees to whom (to) the cause is refered. Got Aurora newspapers and came home. -

Ira after he came home went to town with the waggon carrying his wife wife with him - who was on a visit - he brought back with him a bureau from Demmings. His wife returned on foot. A Pleasant and mild day.

We now find ourselves taking leave of the third winter-month which like those that (that) preceeded

219 it has afforded us no sleighing.
220 The weather was variable, but not extremely cold tho' in some instances verry warm - It was verry pretty weather for business if we had only had snow, a number of days - indeed in the woods sledding was verry (pg) passible. A great rain which happen'd on the 19th. swept almost every foot of snow from every part of the country. -

The - The main part of my business has been in this month, that of threshing out my grain and getting up a wood pile - in the former I succeeded pretty well - in the latter I fall considerably short of my calculations - because a number more loads of wood is necessary to be added to our pile - that it may last us till next winter. I find my account in having such a quantity of wood at my door as shall be sufficient to carry me by cyder-making - corn-harvesting - getting out dung &c; - it's verry convenient then not to be obliged to runaway, in the midst of my other concerns, after a load of wood. Perhaps on this point I have bestow'd handsome conposition - handsome ruled lines - and handsome letters enough. -

THURSDAY MARCH 1st. Went to mill in the A. M., and brought back from Algiers street a bedstead for Ira, a stand for Ruth, and two tables for myself - 1 a small one - the other a middling siz'd kitchen-table. James chopped oak wood on the rocks - and worked near the house in the P. M. Hiram mended fences in the same part of the day. Ira and I got in some hay to the horse-stable P. M.

A fine day - warm. It was cold last night.

FRIDAY MARCH 2d. Ira and I drew stones off the N. meadow. James and Hiram chopped in the woods - not verry spiritedly. Middling cold - A. M. - P. M. snow'd some.

SATURDAY MARCH 3d. James Harwood went off to Wilmington - has worked 17½ days since his coming here on the 5th. of last month. Hiram humorously played the rogue's march for him a few rods (fron) on his way. Got wood. A fine day. -

SUNDAY MARCH 4th. I and my son, whose head had not been within the walls of a Church for more than 12 months before, were the only persons of the family that attended public worship. Pleasant - wind S.

MONDAY MARCH 5th. Ira went to Arlington. I shod the sled. Snowy in the P. M. Not verry cold.

TUESDAY MARCH 6th. In the preceeding night the wind had blown
221

221 tremendiously from the S. W. - and it had snowed so much as to admit of a sleigh's running tolerably well; the day which follow'd proved extremely unpleasant in the forepart of it - the wind blowing verry high out of the N. W. - and causing the snow to fly like dust in a dry season in the summer. It was much after this sort all day, but in a much less degree in the P. M. -
Went to mill not far from the close of the day. Ira arriv'd with a new foot-wheel which he bought of Shubel Babcock - price 21 shillings - in Arlington. He tarried last night with Capt. Whipple of Sunderland.-

WEDNESDAY MARCH 7th. Drawinging wood was Ira's business a considerable part of the day for Mr. Prentis - after that he did nothing more because he was sick. Hiram concluded the day by getting down a load of wood. I and Mrs. Harwood went to Hoosack, with brother Ephraim and sister Sarah Taylor, on a visit. Found our friends well - and had a pleasant visit - along with good weather - which afforded an opportunity for returning home, which we were unwilling to let slip - fearing that another day might bring forth a little bit of a thaw. Sleighing poor - though as good as any we have had this winter. -

THURSDAY MARCH 8th. Our business that of drawing wood. Rather warm - wind S. -

FRIDAY MARCH 9th. Began drawing wood, but the rain came on and obliged us to quit it - having drawn but one load. Went to town in the P. M. - wished to settle accounts with Maj'r Norton but he was in such a hurry that he could not attend to it. Rainy in the A. M. - wind S. - but not much rain P. M. - wind (cp) chopp'd about N. W. at night - blew pretty high. -

SATURDAY MARCH 10th. Again pursued the occupation of getting wood. Mild - I think - for I don't exactly recollect - being now remov'd nine days from that time. -

SUNDAY MARCH 11th. Mr. Marsh expounded to us to-day - Only myself and (an) of) another person of the family - from our habitation turned out to hear the good word.
Wind high from the S. W. -

MONDAY MARCH 12th. A verry snowy day - wind driving hard from N. W. - Let it be understood that it faired away in P. M. - the snow ceased falling - making the best sleighing that has happen'd since last winter - tho' the depth of the snow is shallow. Rode with Ira &
222 his wife to town. A day of no business about home. - Was rather at a stand about going to Troy - but concluded to put it off 'till the next morning early. -

222 TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY 13th. & 14th. Was employed in going to, & returning from Troy. Carried with me 20 bushels of wheat, which I disposed of at the store of Richard P. Hart for 1 D. 75 C. per bushels. For particulars about debts there see 25th. April.

In going to market sleighing served me tolerably well till within 11 m. of Troy - to go that distance I hired a waggon of Mr. Brown of Pittstown. - Was so unfortunate as to break the waggon - but fortunate in not doing me a greater injury, because one of the reaches being gone with one of the pins that fastened the reaschers together - verry much exposed me in notwithstanding all this, the waggon held together perhaps two or three miles - I did'nt find it out till after I had sold my load - and then went immediately and got it mended. After doing my business in Troy (C) came out on my way home as far as Haskins, leaving the waggon, for which I paid 1 D. including the expence of getting it mended. Arriv'd at Haskins' about 10 o'clock in the evening. Fared verry agreeably - paid charges and came away at 8 o'clock in the morning - reached home about 2 in the P. M.

Yesterday or more properly on the 13th. Ira and 1 horse work'd for Maj'r Norton - getting wood. The 14th. he chiefly spent with a horse in Parsons' cutter, looking up a nurse for Mrs. Ault - Mr. Ault accompanied him - who has become the father of a fine boy.

Hiram, while I was gone, did nothing of much worth, though he was not altogether in-active. -

On the morning of the 13th the air was sharp - but before the day was out it soften'd down so maney many degrees as to thaw a good deal - injuring the sleighing materially. In the night it rained some. 14th. cloudy & thawy. Where there was a sufficiency of snow - sleighing was never better. -

FRIDAY. THURSDAY MARCH 15th. Got wood that had been blown down. Cold - not much comfort if idle. - I can't boast of great happiness in exertion. The night and moing was freezing. -

FRIDAY MARCH 16th. Spent like Thursday. I guess it was colder
223 the wind blew bleak enough from the N. W. It was more tedious in the open country than in the woods. -

SATURDAY MARCH 17th. Went with a sleigh over to Mr. Stephen Harwoods - brought from thence a desk of his or his son's make - which with other furniture of that kind we have agreed to buy of him and his son and pay in potatoes, cyder and other produce. Ira and Hiram drew four loads of wood for Mr. Ault from Mr. Parsons' wood lot. -

SUNDAY MARCH 18th. A waggon load of people including myself went from hence to get instruction from the pulpit

223 but the fountain from which it flows, was dried up - with a great cold - so that in order to entertain the congregation - reading was substituted for preaching. Cloudy & chilly. -

MONDAY MARCH 19th. Made no great profit in getting wood this day. Borrow'd Mr. Parsons' sled - and I shod ours while Ira and Hiram were getting wood. We picked up all the scattering wood that was cut - intending to give up getting wood any more till next winter. -

Pleasant & mild in the A. M. - P. M. snow'd some. -

TUESDAY MARCH 20th. Filled the chamber of the horse-stable with hay. - Ira in the P. M. went to Mr. Stephen Harwood's - and I and Hiram ground axes. Mr. Ellis Doty on his return from a journey to Scipio - in the State of New York - where he had carried his brother Asa's family - call'd on us & tarried all night. His brother-in-law Moses Fox and a Miss Lydia Stephens (was) were his company. They went away this morning - equipped with a waggon and team of three horses.

Fair in the morning - P. M. it became hazy - and I think it snow'd before night. -

It's well enough to remark that it is a muddy splashy time - as it usually is at this season.

Mr. Adam Waters is a gentleman with whom I had dealings for several years, and he has always been as - the saying is "up to the chalk" 'till lately he has involved himself so much in debt, that to be punctual in his engagements - is beyond all possibility. As an industrious well disposed young man I respect him. - He would if he possess'd the means, I do not in the least doubt, pay every debt he owes. Finding himself in this situation - and seeing no probability of getting out
224 of it, if he staid here - he took up a resolution to flee his country - and accordingly he put it in execution on the night of the 17th. I knew nothing of it 'till Sunday evening - indeed it was what I should not have guess'd in a hundred times. He owes me about D's. - see p. 201 - However to secure me he caused to be put into my hands six windsor chairs and a table. - which when new cost perhaps fourteen dollars.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 21st. Splitting wood the business in the A. M. - P. M. Mr. Zachariah Harwood his lady - and his son Perez & his wife came here and made us a visit. The weather being stormy - spent the P. M. with gentlemen and ladies. Ira sick. Snow'd fiercely in the after part of the day. - Verry muddy as might be expected.

An expression I wrote on Sunday - is rather absured. - Instead of saying the (found) fountain of instruction was dried up - with a great cold; it sould read somehow like - "the organ through which divine instruction is conveyed was so disorder'd by a great cold, as to be unfit for service &c" - I don't know

224 how this would pass with any reader of common understanding - I believe he will allow it to be better than the first - though at best it is a poor performance. -

THURSDAY MARCH 22d. Work - pretty much as it was yesterday. Some of my neighbors happened in. Mr. T'thy. Palmer - got a bushel of wheat & a dozzen lbs. of flax. - Mr. Taylor had some oats. - Mr. Prentis had an errand here - discours'd with him some about the war of '75 - and other subjects.

Had a cow badly hooked in the belly near the flank, a few days since - which Mr. Prentis & Mr. Taylor say burst the film of the belly.

Loss. Lost by sickness the best yearling sheep in the flock .

Mr. B. Walworth clos'd his school this day See Jan'y 26th.

FRIDAY MARCH 23d. No variation in business. Ira work'd in the P. M. with an axe which had been newly fixed over - and was well pleased with it. -

It snow'd some yesterday - and was raw and chilly - Snow'd again today - otherwise like Thursday. For several days past it has thaw'd in the day-time and froze during the night-season. -

Paid Mr. Walworth his school rate 106cts.

SATURDAY MARCH 24th. Ira with the waggon went to Waters' to bring away the flax which he took of me last fall. He had dress'd a considerable part of it so that there now remain'd not a great quantity undress'd. Mr. Taylor, in whose care it now is, thought it best to keep it there and get it out as soon as may be. -

225-A Brought away a load of corn fodderfrom Brown's barn - bought of Mr. Prentis. Business in other respests went on as it did yesterday. Tolerably pleasant.-

SUNDAY MARCH 25th. I had to be the family's representation at Church.

Cloudy - but in other respects pretty good weather. -

MONDAY MARCH 26th. Did not mention on Saturday that I rode to Mr. Cardall's - Bought desk trimmings - cost 3 dolls. Verry bad riding.

Snow'd steadily - thought not in great abundance - all day - No business done.

TUESDAY MARCH 27th. Carried mother in a sleigh to Gov'r. Robinson's - left her there to make a visit - came home - drew a few loads of wood which had been left in the pasture on account of bad sledding. P. M. Hiram carried a sleigh load of young ladies down to Mr. Eldad Dewey's by the road which leads by Ephraim Smith's to Mr. Hill's He found verry poor sleighing - and was glad to get home again the shortest way he could. When Hiram got

225-A back, Ira took horses & waggon & brought home mother from Gov'r. Robinson's. The part of the day of which I speak - spent in splitting & cording wood. Ira had a tooth pull'd - to keep from taking cold, kept his house - except going to Gov'r. Robinson.

Wind N., chilly & cloudy. -

WEDNESDAY MARCH 28th. Verry early this morning was call'd to go & take an eternal leave of Miss Sally Brown; but before I reach'd Mr. Brown's she was dead. Mrs. Harwood was so unwell that she did not rise to go with me, but Theodocia went and tarried there till sometime in the morning.

We have this day had our anual March meeting. It convened on the spot where once stood the courthouse, (May 17. p. 171) and with the consent of the proprietors-adjourned to the galleries of the meeting house. Before they had time to know whether that part of the house would admit of the business being done there, some gentlemen were anxious to get a vote for going below stairs - without even asking leave of of the proprietors. No notice was taken of this motion. The next business was, the reading of the settlement of accounts - or more properly a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the town during the last 12 months, by Isaac
226-A Tichenor chairman of the committe appointed to enquire in to this business. Then a dispute began about the law which specifies who shall be entitled to the privilege of voting. Tichenor contended that no one could vote unless he was either a freeholder - or if a young man, he had given in his list. If I rightly understood him, he would have excluded all such from voting as had lived in town a number of years or were born here and had become of age and had never given in their lists. He said a good many things about it - and was handsomely answered by Sam B. Young, who told him of his contradicting diametrically what he stated on the same subject two years ago - in my hearing too. Tichenor then said that, all who were born in the town or had lived here several years - and arriv'd at the age of 21 years, according to his conception of the law, had a right to vote. After this debate ended, they went on in the usual way of voting, admitting all who came forward, except in one instance - the (voter) man attempting to vote was stopped because he was under lawful age.

The Clerk, J. E. Robinson - the moderator, D.Fay, were appointed by nomination. Selectmen were chosen by ballot - viz, for the middle of the town Mr., or as they now stile him, Judge Fay - W. part, Zeph'a Armstrong - N. W. pt. J. Hinsdill - N. E. pt. B. Fassett - S. E. pt. Tim'y Hervey. Listers, - S. B. Young, Wm. Hawks, I Hendryx, John Henry & W. Greene. All officers of the town were voted in without balloting except the selectmen. Until we came to make up the (tax) taxes there was no difficulty - then the federalists and quids tried all in their power to get a grant of 5

226-A cents on a dollar for the support of the poor only but it was settled at 1 3/4 cents. for the whole. Rather careless I think - should mention that Samuel Fay was chosen first constable and collector, and Andrew Robinson second constable - both by ballot. The meetting adjourn'd with out day about 7 o'clock in the evening. - We see the democrats once more successful. -

THURSDAY MARCH 29th. Follow'd usual business in the A. M. - P. M. attended Miss Sally Brown's funeral - at which there was a verry general attendance of the friends and acquaintance of the deceas'd.

Mr. Marsh preached from

Verry snowy and chilly in the afterpart of the day. -

225-B FRIDAY MARCH 30th. Split and corded wood. Extremely severe was the cold in the morning - and continued tolerably cold all day - wind N. W.

Mr. Stephen Harwood jun'r. came here & put on desk trimmings.

SATURDAY MARCH 31st. Pruned the orchard. Chilly and clear - wind N. -

On the first Sunday in this month I noticed the singing of spring birds. More snow has fallen since the first of March than during the whole winter before, however the sun had so much influence on it that it vanish'd in the roads in a few hours. It should be remarked that it has continued verry uniform with respect to the weather - to what it has been in some seasons - during this March - Not so cold as it many times is, nor so warm. I find myself obliged to scrimp my cattle in a measure, about fodder, that my hay may hold out. On that score I felt much anxiety all the forepart of the winter. About the first of this month I began to take more courage, but this soon gave place to my former fears on finding the winter still kept on with tolerable severity. I shall, however, decently winter my stock thro'.

Have had no verry severe storms nor high winds. The season for making maple sugar has been remarkably good. Verry little rain has been sent us this month. -

SUNDAY APRIL 1st. Absent from the Lord's house. Verry snowy in the after part of the day. The ground was frozen in the morning - and it continued so chilly as not to thaw much before the snow began to fall.

MONDAY APRIL 2d. Ira went to mill with the sleigh and went to the Nth. part of the town - whence he brought a load of bricks for Elisha Waters. In this expedition

225-B

he broke the sleigh. Had he been with both my old steadies that would not have happened. Next load he shifted the brown mare for one of the old horses - taking the waggon instead of the sleigh - and had no difficulty.

At home business the same as on Friday.

A good day for business. -

TUESDAY APRIL 3d. Ira was in Elisha Waters' service in the A. M. drawing brick. Towards evening he went to mill. Business at home same as yesterday.

Fine weather. Frozen in the morning. -

WEDNESDAY APRIL 4th. Work of the same kind as yesterday. In the evening settled accounts with Mr. Elisha Elisha Waters whose charges against me amounted to $16.72 and mine to $14.71 difference 2 D's. 1 ct.

226-B
June 22d
p. 178

Good weather. Cold in the night. -

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5th. Finished spliting wood at our door. Ira chopped at his own door.

Weather good. -

THURSDAY APRIL 6th. say 7th. not so - say 5th. Pretty much the same with regard to work as a few days back. Yesterday late in the P. M. rode to Mr. House's where Mrs. Harwood was visiting. With her I came home a little in the evening. Mrs. House is in a low state of health. Good weather. -

FRIDAY APRIL 6th. Varied in nothing from yesterday only in Ira's being employ'd in drawing stones.

SATURDAY APRIL 7th. Employ'd as heretofore. Nearly finish'd splitting up the Captains woodpile.

Settled accounts with Mr. Asher Prentis - not far from even. I owed him a few cent's. About 7 dollars on each side. Middling warm & verry pleasant. Has gradually grown warmer since the beginning of the week. Sold to Mr. James Demming a barrel of cider - one day this week.

SUNDAY APRIL 8th. No going to meeting hence. Excuse - because the traveling was so bad.....A grand mistake - or rather blunder - Ira's wife and Sophia Waters went to Church on horse-back. Mr. Nathan Mellen took supper, as he was going home from Church, with us. He now lives in this neighborhood. Cloudy and likly to storm - wind S. -

MONDAY APRIL 9th. Rough weather so that much could not be

226-B done out - Went on to Courthouse - hill - settled accounts with Maj'r. Norton - We stood thus mine $71-88 Ct.
Norton 59-61
12-27

Due $12.27. Grew more fair towards the end of the day work'd some. Snowy and cold. - Ira went to help Mr. Prentis move in the P. M.

TUESDAY APRIL 10th. Ira and Hiram drew stones for wall.

I split wood at Ira's door - and some up by the rocks. Mr. Loan Dewey had a barrel of cider here to-day. Fine weather - but pretty cold. -

WEDNESDAY APRIL 11th. Work'd in the woods. Ira and Hiram pursued such business as they did yesterday.....Good weather. -

227 THURSDAY APRIL 12th. Mended fences and was otherwise employ'd.

Ira worked with the team in the A. M. One of my cattle was badly wounded by dogs. Good weather. -

FRIDAY APRIL 13th. Rode to Mr. Ovaits in Pownal. - Ira & Hiram put up fences, and got 3 loads of manure into the garden. Mr. Stephen Harwood had a barrel of cider and 12 bushels of potatoes.

Cool and clear - wind N. W. -

SATURDAY APRIL 14th. Ira and Hiram did a moderate day's work at plowing - with cattle & horses I worked at repairing an old half wall - lower side of the old orchard - W. side of the lane. Mr. Walter Waterman spent the day here. Agreed yesterday with Mr. Montague to do some walling for me.

Good weather again - a cool morning. -

SUNDAY APRIL 15th. Went to Church - heard Mr. Amos Bingham from the pulpit. A fair day.

MONDAY APRIL 16th. Rode to town and return'd by noon. Settled accounts with Mr. Timothy Palmer - weaver, by which I find my charges against him amounted £15..16..8d & his against me for weaving to £ 16..16..3d. For what is coming to him he took a duebill. Except what is related nothing took place different from Saturday. -

TUESDAY APRIL 17th. Like Saturday, only Ira and Hiram didn't plow in the same field. Last evening - was at Capt'n. Norton's - likewise Mr. Mellen & Mr. Loomis. We took into consideration our school-affairs - and came to a conclusion that Miss Lucretia Norton should be our tea-

School Miss Lucretia Norton

227 the ensuing summer. School to begin on Monday next. Fine weather. The ground dries fast.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 18th. State fast. Went to the house of public worship. Among others Mr. Haswell spoke verry well on the subject of religion. - Attended a conference meeting at Mr. Brown's in the evening. - Wrote a letter to brother Jonas - informing him that the democrats were successful in town-meeting, - that Capt. M. Robinson had been chosen a selectman there, - that he would probably be the representative of that town next fall - &c. He was farther informed that things were going well with
228 the democrats in Massachusetts, N. Hampshire and Rohde - Rhode Island - with some other remarks. The letter lets him know the situation of the family in respect to health, and that we had sent some articles, that he wrote for last winter, as far as Kent's in Dorset - the place he wished to have them left at. - It mentions my settling his affairs in Troy - and Capt. M. Robinson's holding no demand againgainst me. (Capt. Moses - in the original - which is the same to him, as if he saw the whole name) Some account of Elijah Stone, & his eldest son's getting married, is given. The death of Miss Sally Brown is inserted - and the cases of Mrs. Riley and Mrs. House were mention'd - who it is fear'd are not long for this world - that, Pumeroy Smith is likely to get well. Compliments, love & frendship make an end of the letter. -

I have given the substance of the above letter, but not in the same order in which it is written. To. Maloan it goes by Mr. Elijah Nichols, thence by private conveyance or by mail - to Hopkinton. -

THURSDAY APRIL 19th. Cut a few ditches in the meadow. - Sowed a small piece with flax - harrowed over, but not finished. Some plowing done by Ira in the P. M. Mr. Montague had a barrel of cider. A man put up here last Tuesday night - called himself a verry poor man - appeared rather intoxicated with liquor - said his name was Libby - in the morning, before he went away. He had with him an old horse that couldn't eat hay. Pleasant and warm.

Mr. Libby belongs in Middletown - VT.

FRIDAY APRIL 20th. Some barley and spring wheat were sown. The harrowing in of the flaxseed - finish'd - also - barley - & wheat. Ira drew a load of wood for Mr. Ault - carried four bushels of potatoes to him which he bought here. He plowed the garden & other small yards - when he had finish'd Ault's busness - which took up most of the A. M.

Pleasant - warm & some smokey. -

SATURDAY APRIL 21st. Sowed oats - Ira went to mill - in the A.

229 M. - P. M. Employ'd otherwise - made a calf-pen among other small jobs. The harrow was in motion all day, and some plowing done. In these days we work three horses & a yoke of steers.

Our fine weather contiues, almost against our inclination. Some smokey - wind S. in the morning - N. in the P. M.

SUNDAY APRIL 22d. Had the pleasure of being where I might have heard Mr. Marsh, had sleep not blocked up my hearing channels. By this I do not mean that I heard none at all. I understood of his preaching enough, to know that it was verry anti-universal. Got some N. York & Washington papers at Judge Fay's. Smokey & warm like yesterday.

There happen'd a crazy person here this morning - or at least one who meant to be thought so. She was certainly a distress'd looking object - and her countenance & actions bespoke a distracted mind. But she knew more than one at first sight would suppose she did.- Call'd herself Mrs. Battles - between 30 and 40 years of age.

Mr. Asher Prentis mov'd out of the neighborhood on the 9th. of this month - and on the 14th Mr. Isaac Judd came in his stead.

MONDAY APRIL 23d. Work didn't go well - late in the morning before my plow could be put in trim for moving. - Had Daniel Montague to drive team - but he could not manage them verry well. Hiram took them in hand - but they didn't do much better. In the P. M. the team was strengthen'd - another horse was put alongside Parsons' old horse - which went alone before the steers in the A. M. - and kept hauling off - hauling off all the while - now all went smooth till 2 or 3 o'clock - then the old plow broke. - Young Montague, who had been spreading dung, was dismiss'd - Hiram took the oxen down to Parsons's - assisted Ira in finishing off the plowing of his garden or yard or whatever it is most proper to call it. I went to Elisha Waters and got him to mend my plow - which he did faithfully and with dispatch. Ira work'd for Parson today - with a span of horses - getting out dung and plowing. The Green Mountain Farmer came out full and in good season. Vegetation begins to show itself in trees on the mountain and elsewhere. Wheat, rye and grass would grow nicely - if a warm rain should be sent us soon. Andrew Parsons came here today & got some currant-sprouts
230 to set in his garden at Hoosack, which is now his place of residence. Fair and warm - wind S. -

On the 20th. Mr. Marks our tin-merchant, called on us - bought a few articles of him - had a settlement of accounts - owed him 2/7. -

TUESDAY APRIL 24th. Business in the field was carried on by Hiram & I without much difficulty.

230 Ira went with my waggon & one of my horses by the side of his (Parsons) down to Willard Green's and got a load of hay for Mr. Parsons. With the same horses Ira went to Mr. Stephen Harwood's in the P. M. with a barrel of cider & 8 bushels of potatoes - and returned thence with a bureau for himself and a book-case for me - both the work of young Stephen.

Such a rain as we desired came last night, which maturally altered the countenance of our meadows, pastures & fields of grain - for the better. Cloudy some to-day - mild - wind S. -

WEDNESDAY APRIL 25th. When in Troy last, which was March 13th. - took up three notes, two given to Rich'd P. Hart - the one dated Jan'y. 8th. - 19 Ds. - 5/100 - the other dated the 9th. of the same month - 1808-7D. - 8/100 and one given on the 18th. Feb'y. - 1809, to Consider White, for sisteen dollars - eighty five cents.

Notes in Troy - Vide p.204

Mr. Montague worked with me at repairing a post and rail-wall N.th of the orchard - n.th of the house.

Ira and Hiram plow'd with but one team.

Pleasant and warm. -

THURSDAY APRIL 26th. Everything easily slided along in the same way that it did yesterday - except my being a little unwell. Used Mr. Parsons' horse - in the team - this P. M. - Cloudy - had a small shower of rain in the P. M. - Wind S.th.

FRIDAY APRIL 27th. Mr. Taylor came here a little before noon and made an ox-yoke. Mr. Jame Crawford dined with us. Business the same as 2 days preceeding this. - The third day that Mr. Montague has worked at walling here. He tells me, his eldest son - Erastus, badly wounded himself in his (rig) left hand with an axe. Verry unfortunate, because his father depends on him a good deal in doing his work.

Vol. 4th. p. 12th Mr. E. Taylor.

Wind S.th in A. M. - showers kept rising and passing round us - but none came here - considerable thunder. P. M. the clouds blew off - became clear and cooler wind Nth. Wst. - Mr. John Duncan called on me to buy some potatoes, but could spare him none. He now resides in Pownal on the place lately owned by Mr. Freeborn Watson. - I think the Spring opens upon us with a smiling countenance - verry different from last year - when it was so cold that a man must work with all his might to keep from freezing to death - even so late as the 29th. of April. Vide p. 166 - end of April.

231

SATURDAY APRIL 28th. Our garden was made & the seeds sown. The ladies lent their assistance.

Ira went to mill in the morning - brought home some Auroras with him - and afterwards finished plowing the field which we began plowing last Monday - the

231 ground on which we intend to plant.
Rather cool - cloudy - signs of rain.

SUNDAY APRIL 29th. Was at Church. Mr. Marsh being gone to Manchester, Mr. Bushnel supplied his place. Ira carried mother to Church in Mr. Parsons shaise - whose health has been verry poor for several months - so that it is but once in awhile that she is able to go to meeting.
Chilly - wind Sth. - rainy during the P. M. -

MONDAY APRIL 30th. Early in the morning a journeyman of Mr. Elisha Waters came to put on the trimmings of the bookcase. (24th) He wanted more tools than he brought with him - I went for them - on my way saw Mr. Montague & agreed with him to come and work at the same business that he work'd at last week. He came on & I went to work with him, but it presently rained so, that we did not do anything farther till P. M. Ira went to Waters, in order to plow his garden for him, but the rain prevented his doing much - so he came home & work'd with Montague & I, P. M. Hiram didn't do much - his mother sent him over to Tim'y Palmer's in the P. M.
Rainy in the A. M. - warm in the P. M. - wind high from the Sth. - a verry heavy thunder shower came up in the evening - some hail. Mr. Montague tarried with us on account of the shower, all night.
When this month came in - a considerable quantity of snow was on the ground - and it continued cold along for about ten days or more, but since that time it has
232 been a pleasant growing season. At the close of last month I thought I had not a sufficient quantity of hay to winter out my stock, horses & sheep, so well as they in justice, should be. This month proving verry mild, has caused my hay to be plenty at this period. If I had felt as secure on this score as my father did - during the winter, I am well persuaded that now I should be complaining of the scarscity of this important article. With farmers in general hay is by no means scarce.
Sow but little this Spring - two acres of oats - half an acre of flax - a small bit - with barley & spring-wheat. Ira got a few peas - such as we formerly raised, & sowed them. For planting we have allotted 6 acres along the Wst. side of the N. meadow - the Sth. part produced a verry good corp last year - considering the season. The aspect of the season is certainly promising.
Wheat in general I am told, looks well - I wish it might be said of mine, though it bids fair to be tolerably productive. Two of my neighbors - Mr. Montague & Capt. Norton sowed large fields (the former did - Capt. Norton's is not verry extensive) last fall, which are almost entirely bare. Judge Robinson also has a piece which shared the same fate. Clover on this farm had been much injured by the Winter. Our lambs have done well this Spring, few of them having died. -

232 TUESDAY MAY 1st. Last Saturday-night Mr. Parsons arrived with my brown-mare from Re 58 miles from this. Weighed off & sold to Mr. Parsons four hundred of hay. Understanding that Mr. Jonathan E. Robinson intended soon to go a journey to the salt water for the recovery of his wife's health; I went to see him about the affair pending between me and Mr. Hunt. He said he should not go before his father returned from Washington - in whose hands he should leave the management of my cause.

Busied in the P. M. at chopping down a few trees that grew in a hedge E. side of the rocks - out of which a few rails were made - and regulated fencing - in different parts of the farm.

Cloudy and cool in the morning - Fair - P. M.

233 Letter from Mr. Jonas Harwood.

In January I received a letter from brother Jonas - answering one I wrote him on the 25th. of last Sept. - p. 198 - dated 29th. of Oct'r. He wished to know if I had paid the interest due on his land - to Tichenor? - Vide - p. 209. He thought it would save him the trouble of paying 150 dollars. The day before he wrote, Waite Hopkins told him that his father said that, he, Jonas, had not paid anything for his lot. Jonas replied that, the contract I had made with Mr. Tichenor, had been fulfilled - he expected - by my paying him. Waite farther informed him that, the price of the land was set at four D's. per per acre. This, my brother thought "a sudden affair" to him; for he had informed Esq'r. Hopkins the last summer that I had written to him, Jonas, that I expected to pay it. - Vide p. 157 - 24th. - Feb'y. -

Esquire Hopkins had gone to N. York & some expected (on his) to come to this place before his return. He hoped I should get his letter before Hopkins came here - ("before he returns" in the letter) - so that I might (mahe) make the business right. If he should not see me (which was really the case) - my brother requested me to write concerning the matter - for, the next January there would become due three years' interest - and his request was complied with on the 28th. Dec. - 18th. April. He said it would be verry pleasing to him - as he had as many other debts as he could pay in that year - for, the Pierce affair - see p. 167, 156 - would cost him - reckoning his trouble - at least thirty dollars.

In speaking of the season, he describes it similar to what was it here. See last of Aug'st. p 191. Wheat middling good - grass stout. He had raised, according to his estimation, about ninety bushels of wheat - forty more of corn - and between twenty and thirty of - as he writes "the stoutest oats you ever saw."

"Brother Benjamin" he says "You see now it is almost 3 years since we moved into the bush - we have rais'd no wool & but little flax - not a pound of wood to be bought - you must expect that we must grow somewhat ragged" - concludes the sentence with asking a

234 a few pounds of each, of me. - if to be spared, for which he should be verry thankful. See 18th. of April p. 227.

He had talked of coming to Bennington - in the winter, but had given it up, on account of the hard times. - But, says he, I (might) must waite for you to make me a visit first, for you have got horses - & I have none - I may wait till I am grey, I suppose. He mentions two of our old acquaintants who had called on him - Mr. Willis Taylor and Mr. Nathaniel Montague.

His family were all well except his wife who had not been well all summer.

Concludes in the usual form. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 2d. Ira plow'd Elisha Waters' garden. At home repairing fences. Quite contrary to my intention, my cows & other cattle broke into one of the summer-pasture - last Monday where we shall be obliged to keep them till the grass gets a longer growth, in other parts of the farm. They eat hay nearly as well now - as they did a month ago. Fair - wind N. coolish. -

THURSDAY MAY 3d. Ira - employed by Mr. E. Waters - in drawing stones for a cellar-wall. My horses were in his service also.

Time chiefly taken up in the garden - in the A.M. P. M. worked in the Nth. meadow - diging out some ugly stones - for which in haying-time many a drop of sweat had fallen, and knocking dung. Chilly - wind high - S. Rain'd some in the P. M.

FRIDAY MAY 4th. Rainy - which made it a broken day with us. Filled two barrels with cider - carried one to Mrs. Parsons & the other to Mrs. Ault, who now resides in the house formerly owned by Dr. Fuller. - More pleasant P. M. put up or mended fences - some in one place - some in another. Hiram had the ague in his face - did n't go out much. -- Rainy in the A. M. - succeeded by a cool breeze from the Nth. Wst. -

SATURDAY MAY 5th. Drew down some timber from the woods and split out a few rails. Finish'd repairing the fence on which Mr. Montague & I work'd last week.

Brother Samuel Robinson Jun'r & sister Sarah were
235 here on a visit. Fourteen years this day since they were married. Mrs. Anne Doty also came here to make a visit. Sold 8 bushels of oats to Iraac Robinson. While I was measuring them out, brother Sam'l Stepped into my business (sharpening & putting in rails) as if it had been his own. Besides doing this fence Ira drew off a few stones (out) from the meadow.

A raw breeze from the N. W. - cloudy - a frost apprehended.

235 SUNDAY MAY 6th. As well yesterday as today mother and Mrs. Harwood were both quite sick. Medical aid was called & applied last evening.

None of the family went to meeting but myself.

Some rainy in the morning - and cloudy & cold all day.

MONDAY MAY 7th. Plowing a 2d time our planting ground - with 2 teams. Had Parsons' horse to work. Ira and Hiram went with the teams, & I was busy - mending fences. Cold, Squally on the mountains, parts of which were whitened with snow. -

It was so cold last night as to freeze considerably - believ'd not to injure fruit - trees - they being not yet forward enough for the frost to nip their blossoms. -

Mr. Taylor took the bladder from a young horse's foot which he says causes a ringbone. The horse belongs to me - is nearly thee years old.

TUESDAY MAY 8th. Plowing went on as it did yesterday - used Parsons' horse. Built a board-fence between the two houses - with new red-oak posts.

Cloudy and chilly - but more mild than yesterday. Receiv'd 2 bushels of wheat of Mr. Nathan Mellen for the same quantity of spring wheat that he had of me to sow.

WEDNESDAY MAY 9th. Mostly taken up in repairing fences. The P. M. would have been spent steadily getting out dung, but Capt. Norton's sheep & Brown's cattle at the southern & northern extremities of the farm - plagued us by getting on our grain. Capt'n. Norton assisted me in guarding against his sheep. There is no fencing out Brown's cattle - 2 of them - a pair of steers. - Got out a few loads of manure - furrowed out a piece of ground for potatoes.

Changeable - sometimes warm & sometimes chilly.

236 THURSDAY MAY 10th. Planted, potatoes. Ira was sick. Fair.-

FRIDAY MAY 11th. Hiram and Erastus Montague began to furrow the ground for corn, but were obliged to leave the field sometime before noon on account of its raining. Nothing more was done at that business. At noon Erastus went home. We planted potatoes in the P. M. Ira still unwell. The family in general were complaining. Ruth was greatly afflicted with a stiff-neck - and otherwise tormented with the rheumatism.

Rainy in the A. M. - from the E. P. M. fair.

SATURDAY MAY 12th. Planted nearly all the ground with corn

236 that, I had allotted for that purpose. Mr. Parsons and Natha'l were in my service. Erastus Mont'e and Hiram finished furrowing at noon. Erastus dropped corn in the P. M. I mentioned him page 230 - April 27. A horse let to Mr. Luman Norton (brown-mare) to go to Sandgate with a load of ware, was returned this evening by Judge Robinson that, the refferees to whom my case with J. Hunt is referred, are to meet on Monday the 21st. - May. Mr. Levi Marks tarried with us last night - paid him the small demand he held against me. Vide p. 230 - April 23d. We are now even. -

My corn was planted without plaistering it, none could be had in town.

Wind fresh in the Sth. - signs of rain.

SUNDAY MAY 13th. Went to the house of public worship - heard preaching by Mr. Marsh.

Father endures great pain with his jaw - vide page 219 - 28th. Feb'y.

On Friday we were informed by Mrs. Duncan - (the same had been told us before by Mr. Parsons), who had been on a visit there, that her mother and youngest sister had been dangerously ill, but now getting better; that they had in time of their sickness, been without any assistance except what their neighbors voluntarily gave. Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Eldridge - a sick woman, staid here that night.

Some rainy - verry searching air - wind Sth. Mrs. Anne Doty went home today. -

237 Was informed by young Locke that Mr. Brown's cattle had been in a pasture adjoining the S. pt. of Brown's Fay-farm, this morning - and drove them out. I directed Hiram to go, while I was gone to meeting, and see Mr. Norton to get him to keep them off till to-morrow. - I didn't mean that the man should be so kind as to watch longer than day lasted. Hiram had done nothing about it when I came home - so I went myself to see Mr. Norton. Which Norton, - Why the same that is mentioned - page 187 - Aug. 9th.

Mr. Parsons cows were taken into pasture.

MONDAY MAY 14th. Spent the day in putting my fences in rig. Mended a few rods of fence between this farm and the fay-farm, which belonged to Mr. Brown. I did it because I supposed it never would be - or at least not in any suitable time - done, unless by myself. Mr. Brown's cattle broke into my grain - May 9th. Information was sent to them of it and the cattle remov'd to another part of their farm.

Ira with team and plow worked for Mr. J. E. Robinson - not all day - because it was rainy.

Chilly, cloudy and showery - wind N. W.

Until this time we have stabled our cows - and regularly foddered them and others of our cattle, but shall discontinue it till fall. We began to fodder last year about the 25th. of Nov'r. My cattle are in

237 tolerable good order. It was a good hit that I used my hay so prudently last winter. See last of April.
It hailed some today - the stones were not large.

TUESDAY MAY 15th. Getting out dung - and laying in the furrows where we are yet to plant corn and a few potatoes - made out this day's work.
Raw chilly blasts from N. W. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 16th. Finished the business of planting in the field. Our field stretches (d) along the W. side of the north - meadow - nearly the whole length of it - and contains about acres. My planting is all done on one piece of ground, except a small bit occupied with potatoes. Ira and team worked the whole day Mr. J. E.
238 Robinson, who for what was done on Monday and this day, pays the money - more proper perhaps to say cash. Why do I spend my time in making one blunder to rectify another? I will inform anybody that happens to read this book that it was written by a homespun-farmer - as will readily be perceived - from the complexion of every page! - I write this book for myself - not for the public, or individuals, therefore I don't see any necessity for my being so verry particular with regard to composition - If I understand myself, it is sufficient. Ira carried mother to Dr. Lyman's, where she made a visit.
Fair but cold - speaking in a general sence - wind strong - but not high, from N. W. See - 12th. May. The Hunt affair does not come on till the 24th.

THURSDAY MAY 17th. Plowing a part of the garden again & 1 or 2 other small yards - drawing a few boat loads of stone for the garden fence - mending that fence - planting beans and setting poles for pole beans was the business of the day.
There came a considerable frost last night, but it is not thought to have injured anything materially. The blossoms of our fruit trees are yet in so backward a state as to be out of danger. Vegetation has advanced but slowly since the beginning of the present month, which is owing to cold weather. To-day the wind blew strongly from the northwest causing the air to be quite sharp, for a period so late.
Took in Mr. Parsons' horse to pasture.
Grain produced in the years 1808 and 1809.

1808	Acres	bhs.	1809	Acres	bhls.
Wheat- - - - -	10½	199	Wheat- - - - - - - -		129½
Rye- - - - - - -	4	58	Summer ditto- - - - - -		6
Summer wheat- -	3	52	Rye- - - - - - - - - -		51½
Oats - - - - - - - - -		75	Oats- - - - - - - - -		162½
Corn- - - - - - -	8	257	Peas - - - - - - - - -		4
Barley- - - - -	¼	10	Corn - estimated - -		120
		604			437½

Weat grown in 1808 sold 56 bhls for seed 1D-25 $70

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- - - - - - - - - - -40- - - - - - - - - - -	6/5	43.33
- - - - - - - - - - -20- - - - - - - - - - -	-1D-47	29.40
		142.73

Rye the same year - sold 9½ bhls - 3/9 per bhl.	$ 5.78
Twenty bushels of corn - 50 cents per bushel	10.
Add - 116 bushels of wheat on the opposite page	142.73
Makes in the whole - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	-$158.51
Produce of the orchard - (page 144) sold amounted to	$ 62.12½
Added to the above - gives a total of	$220.63½
Wheat in 1809 - sold - 69 bhls D 1½ pr. bh.	$103.50 C.
Rye - - - - - - sold - 17½ bhls. 1 dol. pr.bhl.	17.50
Corn- - - - - - ditto- 19 bhls. Same price	19.
Oats - - - - - -Ditto- 21 bhls.	7.33

FRIDAY MAY 18th. Much of my business was repairing the garden and other fences. Three plumbtrees that stood in the S. E. corner of the garden were felled, and appropriated for firewood.

We have turned out our horses to pasture.

Chilly and dry - wind N. W.

Within a day or two an offer of 70 dollars for my brown mare made me by capt. Norton, but refected partly on account of the pay not being such as suited me, and partly on account of wanting her for her services on the farm and otherwise.

SATURDAY MAY 19th.and 19th. Washed sheep.
SUNDAY THE 20th. By manoeuvreing with the lambs we were belated. I intended to have gone on early. Mr. Atwood got the ground first with a large flock. We joined with his hands and finish'd off his in a hurry - in like manner mine were done. Thirty two of mine & upwards of fifty in Atwood's flock. On my part the hands who went into the water were Mr. Montague, Hiram and Nathaniel R. Locke. Mr. Atwood had Mr. Sears Mr. Alson Squire and Mr. Allen. Ira and 1 horse plow'd for Mr. Montague. Hiram worked for Mr. Judd in the P. M. - planting corn.

Rode to Hoosack falls on a visit at Mr. Archibald Stones. Mrs. Harwood had arriv'd there a few hours before. - We found them in much better health than they had been. See 13th. of May. -

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MARCH 1799) 6th.

Balance due Tim'o Palmer on Settlement) this day- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		£ 2..2..11
To discount with Peter Harwood & To my	Moses Robinson	9..0
BALLANCE		

240 MAY (TWENTY) TWENTIETH. Con't. Returned from the falls. Say many great fields that were sown with wheat last fall, with verry few living spires of that grain upon them. Wheat I find accoding to my own observation and what others have seen was exceedingly killd in the winter. My remarks on this head on the 30th. of April were not correct. I hear from every part of the country that wheat is doing quite poorly. Heard no complaints of sickness among the people at the falls

Nineteenth dry and chilly - wind N. W.

The water was found to be pretty cold. Twentieth - a fine day. -

MONDAY MAY 21st. Rainy in the morning - late before we commenced the business of the day, which was that of moving rails rails from a former - and erecting them into a new fence which divides a part of the Sth. meadow from the pasture immediately Sth. of Ira's house and contiguous to Brown's fay farm.

In the after part of the day it was fair and warm.

On the 18th., was made acquainted with Mr. Brown's having bought the Street lot of Mr. Mosely. I and one of my neighbors wished to buy it. I asked him this spring if he had any notion of purchasing it? Oh no he hadn't, he had got land enough - he didn't wish for any more. Since that time he has made a journey purposely, I suppose to buy that land. -

TUESDAY MAY 22d. Ira and Hiram went down to House's and got some sand. Brought from Hatches timber for a stone boat - paid 1 dollar. Father and I fixed the fence E. of the sugar place. P. M. thinned out the young trees in that place.

28 Journal Vol. 3d

Brought from last page in the book.

TUESDAY MAY 22d. Late in the day Mr. Hunt came to me and, after much conversation, agreed to deliver back to me the goods which he took on the 13th. of last Sept. - supposing them, at that time, to belong to James Waterman. See ps. 193 - 194 - 195 - 208 - 236 and 238. Ira took waggon and horses in the evening and brought them home. Each pays his own counsel.

Hunt settles his sour business. 13th. Sept. p. 193

Fair - wind N. W. - Smokey. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 23d. The flock was shorn. Hired Mr. Taylor to assist. Paid him in hay. I went to town. Ira and Hiram mark'd the sheep for driving over the mountain.

Fine weather - wind N. Warm.

THURSDAY MAY 24th. Worked on the highway - capt. Norton surveyor - on the hill N. of Parsons's - Had oxen, horses, plow - myself, Ira and Hiram on the ground.

Highway work.

28 Verry warm, and some smokey. -

FRIDAY MAY 24th. The same business again. Finish'd the hill on which we work'd yesterday - did something at the hill Sth. of widow Hinman's - and that Sth. of Parsons. This applies only to the party of which I was an individual - not exceeding, yesterday or today, in number. Ira worked on his own account yesterday - for me to-day - otherwise like yesterday, except my oxen being on but half a day, and no plow. I am rated on the road - have worked out $5.70 of it.

Capt. Sages coal diggers.

Capt. Sage agreed with me on the 22d to board his pit-coal diggers - one of whom did not come till Wedns'y - only 2 of them - an elderly man and a young man.

A verry warm day.

About the 22d & 23d. the blossoms of the apple-tree were in full flower.

Mr. Taylor made a stone-boat for me today.

White-washing by L. Dewey.

Mr. Loan Dewey finished whitewashing - he commenced the business yesterday - morning - is paid already - price 150 cts. in produce. -

29

Brown's cattle.

Neighbor Brown's cattle broke into my rye field twice, today; his mosely farm - or Aunt Annis's mosely farm joins it on the W. & N. sides - my part of the fence is on the latter, and his or her fence is on the former side. Either of them is good enough to turn away (ordin) orderly cattle, Of the two I think Aunt Annis' is the poorest. But his (Brown's) cattle are so monstrously unruly that no common fence is sufficeint to guard against them.

The poor creatures are not to be blamed, - in the first instance they were starved to it. Those feeling people turned away their cattle to pasture in the early part of April, to save their hay - when they had upwards 15 tons.

At this last aggression I was exceedingly provoked. See pages - 172, May 17th. 186 (July) Aug. 4th. 187, 8th. 237, My 13th. 235, May 9th. and 240 May 21st.

SATURDAY MAY 26th. Dispatched Ira and Hiram away, as soon as could be done, with 50 head of sheep and lambs and 7 head of cattle, for Mr. Ellis Doty's in Wilmington. I had previously agreed with him to keep them through the season. He wished me not to bring my ram, but it so happened that the gentlman, after we had confined him, by accident, leaped out among his comrades, and went on.

Sheep & cattle driven over the mountain.

Labor in Mr. E. Waters service.

Worked for Mr. Elisha Waters a considerable part of the day at drawing stone, for cellar wall - went to mill and performed some other trifling services. Was hindered from business till late in the morning, by the boys, being obliged to help them drive, as far as the meetinghouse. Exceedingly warm and dry. -

SUNDAY MAY 27th. A general attendance of this family was

29 given at the house of public worship.
Like yesterday - verry warm. No showers here.

30 MONDAY MAY 28 th. Prusued the same business awhile in the morning, mention'd at the bottom of the last page in the book. And afterwards spent the day doing the same kind of work for Mr. Waters that I did on Saturday. For the 2 days I shall charge 2 dollars.

Ira and Hiram arived from Wilmington. They were plagued some on the road with one of the cattle, and a young lamb which they carried in their arms a good deal of the way. Nothing worth mentioning befel them except loosing the meanest lamb in the flock. Mr. Doty's people were all well. I made a contract with him for a considerable quantity of maple sugar, but the season for making it, on that side of the mountain, proved to be so unfavorable, that but little of that commodity was made in that part of the country. So that he is unable to furnish me even with a few pounds, which is no small disappointment to me. A warm day. -

Disappointed about sugar.

TUESDAY MAY 29th. Worked on the road about three hours in the A. M. - with Gideon House who had a cart & oxen, drawing blue-rock into the road. Ira and Hiram were both of them there. P. M. we were assistants at the raising of a frame set up by Mrs. Hinman at the south end of her present dwelling. It is 18 by 27 - a story and half in height. Mr. E. Waters master - workman. I tho't most of the gentlemen raisers were of an uncommonly rough caaracter.

Highway work.

Mrs. Hinman's raising.

Wrote a letter to James Waterman, which informs him of Mr. Hunt's having settled the affair between him and me. See ps. 28 - 194. That he might have those goods on (~~that~~) the same condition that he had them, on the 13th. of Sept. - p. 194. Advised him not to show himself here, unless with money enough to meet his creditors, Hunt among the rest, with a bold face. - Particularly mention'd Mr. Wilson's case - to be sure to pay him, because he (Wilson) had acted the manly part towards him. -

A letter to J.Waterman. See June 4th.

31 Nothing of importance was added more than that my father's sore jaw troubled him verry much; which I am afraid will carry him out of the world, and that mother is no better in health than she was last summer. Some news, compliments &c make made an end of it. -
No material difference between yesterday and today - with ra-regard to the weather. -

WEDNESDAY MAY 30th. The forenoon was taken up working on the highway, plowing and scraping the hill south of Mr. Parsons. Had a little difficulty with Mrs. Hinman about a scraper which she had brought from the South part of the town. She was verry unwilling that I should have it, & before I had done with it, sent for it. She wanted to scrape away the dirt that was

Mrs. Hinman & scraper.

31 dug out of her cellar, no other day could it be done, nor could Jack be put to any other business. I knew what was my right, and acted accordingly. That part of the road on which I was at work, is certainly more interesting to her than almost any other that can be mentioned; nevertheless see how accommodating this old lady is. -

This scraper is the town's property.

In the P. M. we only had time to mend a few rods of fence before a long-wished-for shower of rain came up, and obliged us to go home. After the shower, cabbage - plants were set in the garden.

Before it rained the air was extremely warm.

Thundered during the shower. -

THURSDAY MAY 31st. Verry little done in the A. M. Had business in town. - Something done in the garden. P. M. cut bushes in what used to be our sugar-place, for the purpose of thinning out the young grove growing there.

Cutting out bushes

Rainy in the A. M. - P. M. cool wind N. W.

Wet and verry cold till the 12th. or 14th. - cold even so late as the 20th. 17th. had a considerable frost. After the 21st. it was dry warm weather till
32 the 30th. when that refreshing shower was sent us, that I spoke of that day. The last day - rather cool.

Considerable apprehension was excited by the late draught, but it cannot continue now since a change of weather has taken place. Page 240. 20th.

In (a) April we looked for an early season, however May proved to be unfavorable to the progress of vegetation for many days. We cannot complain of the cold in the latter part of the month, as we did last year, for I don't think it was warmer any time last summer. See pages 175, 191. -

As to winter wheat - see p. 240 That which is alive looks pretty well about here. -

FRIDAY JUNE 1st. Collecting old bits of rails about fences that had been mended - and where one had formerly stood, for fire-wood or fuel, - and repairing the line fence between capt. Norton's and this farm, constituted our sole business.

Cold in the morning - coolish all day- wind N. W. Some were fearful of frost.

A young mare of mine, four years old, brought a cold last Friday, which seemed to be doing well enough till we found it dead the next day P. M. This alters my mind about keepting my brown mare, because now I can spare her. I am ready to dispose of her at any time, provided I get my price, which is 70 dollars.

A young colt lost.

SATURDAY JUNE 2d. Mended fences, worked in the garden. - Ira in the P. M. put the pleasure box of the waggon in trim for going to Church.

Brown mare sold.

Sold the brown mare to capt. Norton for 70 dollars

32 pay - part in money and part in goods.
A note is not now given, on account of the mare's being on a journey to Rupert. -
Clear. High wind from the S. - S.

SUNDAY JUNE 3d. Went to meeting with my mother. Wind
33 blew high from the Sth. - had thunder and rain at night.

MONDAY JUNE 4th. Business of the greatest importance done
Diging stone. to-day was diging stone in the P. M. from a ledge a small distance N. of the great spring. Had considerable thunder & a good deal of rain last night. Lowery wind S. A. M. P. M. N. W.

TUESDAY JUNE 5th. Yesterday in the forenoon worked on our
Private highway work. private road near Mr. Parsons's with out making any account of it against the public. Mr. Parsons and his apprentice assisted.
I more than paid my highway rate when I work'd last, on the road. 30th. of May.
Not a great deal done in the forepart of the day - being rainy. Ira and Hiram were verry busy in preparing for training. P. M. they trained and I dug stone from a ledge in the young orchard.
A mistake in a letter written to J. Waterman. p. 30th. When I wrote to Waterman on the 29th. of May, there was one thing inserted by Hiram contrary to my mind, which was, advising him to pay Mr. Hunt. I never can in conscience, assent to anything like that. See 13th. of Sept. p. 194. To let Waterman know my opinion respecting this matter, Hiram has written him a letter in his own name, by Mr. Samuel Robinson Jun'r. who is about to make a journey to that part of the country. The mistake in the first letter would have been rectified then if I had mantion'd it, but I was at a raising - and felt in a hurry. -
It looked in the morning likely to be rainy all day, but cleared up verry pleasant before night - rather cool - wind N. W.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 6th. Began to hoe. Daniel Montague rode horse
34 for us half the day. Fair, but cold. Wind N.th.
Tuesday night Mr. Joseph Norton had a blacksmith's shop burnt.

THURSDAY JUNE 7th. Business, the same Young Loan Dewey rode horse and (plow) hoed his half row - bravely.
Brown mare sent to Capt. Norton. Last night the mare which I sold to Capt. Norton on Saturday, arriv'd from Rupert, to which place Ruth Harwood had rode her on a visit. I sent the boy down with her this morning to the proprietor, but I was sorry to have her appear as she did, looking as though she had just come off a long journey, which was not owing to hard riding, but to a great uneasiness that she discoverd during the whole time that Ruth had her.

34

She broke out of her pasture once, and ran off 2 miles before they could catch her; a verry orderly creature too at home. She lamed herself a little in the scrape, and is saddle galled, but not to injure her. I should scarcely think of these accidents, if I had not sold her.

I shall see Capt'n Norton and excuse the matter to him as well as I can. We shall have no difficulty. -

Good weather - wind S.

FRIDAY JUNE 8th. So rough was the weather that, verry little could be done. Attempted in the P. M. to dig stone, but was driven home again by the rain. Sent Loan to mill with waggon and horses.

L. Dewey Jun'rs.work E. storm.

The storm of which I have spoken came from the E., high wind, verry cold & much rain. -

SATURDAY JUNE 9th. Raised four rods of four feet and a half-wall, on the W. side of the lane north of the great spring. Our materials are verry handy, being abundantly supplied from ledges near by. My Montague master- workman.

Walling 35 Montagues

Loan Dewey Jun'r. went home this morning. -

No so cold as yesterday, but little rain, wind continued easterly.

SUNDAY JUNE 10th. My young people were so indolent and afraid of the rain that none of them went to Church. I alone went.

Still cold, but growing warmer, no rain of any duration.

Mrs. Fairchild & son

This P. M. arrived here from Charlotte - widow Mahetable Fairchild, her son Sherman and his wife on their way to the town of Sunbury - State of Ohio, with a verry wide stout waggon, drawn by three horses. They are verry welcome guests, having lived many years near neighbors to me.

MONDAY JUNE 11th. So rainy in the A. M. that nothing more was done than setting a few tobacco-plants - and going to mill. P. M. when it didn't rain, - dug stone in the young orchard.

Mr. Fairchild and his folks and Mrs. Harwood visited at Mr. Taylor's and Mr. Waters'.

A wet day, though except in the A. M. it did not rain verry much. Wind south. -

Moses Sage Jun'r. taken in.-

They heard at the furnace today, at least young Moses Sage heard that Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Murphy had found coal!!! A load of boards was immediately sent on, for the purpose. I suppose of securing the coal from the weather. No coal nor signs of it more than there ever was, has yet appeared; they have sunk their well, only about 15 feet. It would be pretty cheaply obtained, if found so near the surface of the ground.

36 See May 24th. page 28th 1810. -

Theft. A gentleman informed me yesterday of a notorious piece of villany committed lately at State - arms tavern.

A young lady from Montreal, took up her quarters there a few days since, where she still continues. On the night of the she had two silk gowns & 160 dollars in gold, stolen from her.

TUESDAY JUNE 12th. Could only do a little in the garden in the A. M. on account of its being rainy. Worked verry steadily - P. M. at diging stone, from a ledge above the great spring. It afforded us considerable sport to see the great ones roll down the hill.

Diging Stone.

Mr. Fairchild goes on for Ohio. Mr. Fairchild and his people departed for the Ohio country, this P. M. He married a (miss) Miss Huldah Hill, of Charlotte, whose brother accompanies Mr. Fairchild on his journey to his new possessions. Mr. Benj'n. M. Fairchild his elder & only brother has been in that country about two years, and made a considerable purchase for himself and brother. The distance they will be obliged to traverse, is stated to be 700 miles. Sunbury, Delaware County, State of Ohio, is the place to which they are going. -

Rainy in a moderate degree in the A. M. not much in the P. M., but continued cloudy. Wind south and south east.

E. Taylor. Mr. Erastus Taylor came to see us.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 13th. Resumed the business commenced on the 6th.

Hoeing All was regular in the A. M. P. M. after three or four showers in succession, we were driven from our work by the rain. Loan Dewey Jun'r. rode horse for us.

THURSDAY JUNE 14th. Same as Tuesday differing only in Ira and Loan's drawing rails to repair some of the fences,

37 and going to a raising in the P. M. at Mr. Loomis'. While we were there, after the building was put up, a hard thunder shower came out of the N. W. Before that happened the wind had been N. W. carrying off thick, low, clouds before it.

FRIDAY JUNE 15th. Same as Saturday last.

Walling. Young Loan Dewey was the only one not on the ground that day.

Pretty warm, but no shower in this place, though it thundered not far off.

SATURDAY JUNE 16th. Finished our first hoeing, except ~~half~~ an acre of potatoes. Loan rode horse. Pleasant and warm. Wind N.

Brown's cattle.- Yesterday towards evening several of Mr. Brown's cattle broke into the pasture W. of the rocks, and out of that one of them jumped into the cornfield, but did n't tarry there long. The cattle were turned into the

37 highway and information sent Mrs. Hinman of what had taken place. After I had done work I polled several rods of the fence, and mended the part through which they had made a breack. See an article under 25th of May page 29.

SUNDAY JUNE 17th. As many as usual from this family attended

Mr. Fairlee. divine service. Mr. Fairlee of Manchester preacher, an ordinary one too, I should say.

Verry warm - showers hung on the E. mountain in the P. M. and it rained some here, with thunder. Continued warm in the evening.

Removal of Mrs. Waters. Last night Mrs. Anne Waters, family and effects sat off for Swanton, where she expects to meet her husband. See March 20th. p. 223.

38 MONDAY JUNE 19th. Rode to town this morning and agreed with a plow-maker to make me a plow. Ira went with him to Col'o S. Robinson's, and got a parcel of plow-handles. Our potatoes were hoed. See Saturday. Did something in the garden.

Verry warm. Showery Sth. of us with thunder.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20th. Brought a letter from the post office

Letter from Doctor Fay see p. 40 from Dr. Jonas Fay to my father which I shall copy in a few days. Page - 40.

Hoeing for Montag Plowing. I hoed for Mr. Montague. Ira and Hiram with oxen and horses plow'd for wheat.

Extremely warm in the (the) forepart of the day. P. M. thunder showers were on every side of us, but none of them reached us - it barely sprinkled a few moments. Nothing so warm as it was in the A. M.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21st. Differs in nothing from yesterday respecting business.

Much cooler than yesterday. Cloudy. Wind north.

Ellis Doty & folks. - Mr. Ellis Doty, lady and 2 youngest children arrived from Wilmington.

THURSDAY JUNE 22d. Spent much of my time with Mr. Doty. Isaac Godfrey and Ira plow'd - broke Montague's plow, the

New plow. Montague's broken nose of it came off. Mr. Lewis had made me a new one, they got that, and went on slick enough in the P. M. Hiram hoed for Mr. Montague about two thirds of the day.

Pleasant and cool - wind N. W. A shower appeared in the E. - thunder'd some. The 18th day of this month compleats the 49th. year of my father's residence in this place with his family.

39 FRIDAY JUNE 22d. Made a mistake in the date last Monday which should be the 18th.

Mr. Doty returns home. Mr. Doty, lady, mother and children started off

39 for Wilmington this morning.
Mr. Church, Erastus and Luman Montague, worked here today. Hoeing - the business. Mr. Godfrey and Ira the same as yest'y.
Warm and fair - Wind Nth. -

SATURDAY JUNE 23d. Same business. Mr. Church and Luman Montague were here only in the A. M. Erastus worked all day. This makes the third day that Mr. Godfrey has worked for me - plowing along with Ira.
Cool and pretty fair. A small cloud making some thunder, showerd the E. mountain lightly. Wind N. -

SUNDAY JUNE 24th. Gave attendance at Church. Mr. Marsh - in the pulpits.
Verry warm - Wind Sth. I mean Nth.

Work on the road for Mont'g

MONDAY JUNE 25th. Worked for Mr. Montague on the highway - middle district - main road. Began at the foot of the hill north of the Courthouse and proceeded Sth. as far as Col'o Fay's. Colo. Robinson surveyor.
Ira and Hiram at plowing.
Pretty warm - Wind N. part of the time and part of the time south.

40 TUESDAY JUNE 26th. Followed the same business that we did on the 15th. The ground is now so hard that it is verry difficult to break it up - therefore plowing is suspended 'till it rains. A pretty warm day. Cloudy. Wind south. Signs of rain noticed at night.

Walling.

Methodists camp-meeting.

The methodists begin to hold their camp-meeting in Pownal today.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 27th. The same work again. Mr. Montague - head workman, both yesterday and to-day. Carried the wall as far south as it should go. We shall next begin to run it north.

Walling

Sister Waterman. -

My sister Lucy arriv'd here this P. M. from the town of Columbus (near Sherburne) State of N. York. She came with my brother-in law, Sam'l Robinson jun'r. See p. 33. She left her husband well, who she says is doing well. Mr. Montague talked strongly of going to camp-meeting - tomorrow. Mr. Parsons was blessed in the birth of a second son, on the 25th. Cloudy - Wind S. Some rainy. -

Mr. Parsons.

Copy of a letter From Doctor Fay to my father.

Copy of Doct'r. Fay's letter.

Pawlet, 4th. June, 1810

Brother Harwood &c.

Forgive me for putting you to the expence of 0/9, to inform you that I returned from a tour to Enosburgh - Saturday last, where I found our children, relations

40 and connexions and acquaintance (those who survive)
in as good health and prosperous circumstances as could
41 reasonably be expected.- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -
- -
- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - The widow of John Fasset,
Judge Amos Fasset & David Fasset are no more. Col'o
David Safford and Capt. John Safford and their families
with whom I have been conversant, are in usual health
and send their respects to their connexions, of which
you will please to acquaint them when convenient. And
if you have opportunity, acquaint Capt. Norton that
I saw and conversed several times with his friend Nor-
man Judd whose all was distroy'd by that devouring ele-
ment fire, last summer, but that, by the assistance of
his friends and by his good conduct which has acquired
his credit as a republican, he has been able to erect
a brick building with a pottery under it, which is verry
convenient, that he wishes much to engage a journeyman
potter that's a workman, to whom he will give generous
wages. (say $28 doll pr. month)

I close this address with the most disagreeable
part of the subject. It is unhappy for me to inform
you that my partner had the misfortune in Feb'y. last
to meet with a fall on the ice, and altho' there were
no bones broken or dislocated, yet it has left her in
a debilitated state, & her health is impaired. She has
not been able of late to attend, or scarcely assist
to perform any, even the least share of domestic con-
42 cerns - not even to cook her own diet, or make her
bed. Your brother waits on her and hopes she may yet
recover. We wish to hear the health of Aunt Peter.

God bless you. Jonas & Lydia. -

N. B. I have had letters from brother Hatch and Spooner
lately. All well. Brother Spooner hearty. -

This letter was receiv'd from the office on the
20th. of this month. Page 38.

THURSDAY JUNE 28th. Mr. Montague didn't
go to the camp-meet-
ing, but came rather lateish (only 1 e) and worked as
Mr. J.Doty. he did yesterday. Mr. John Doty arrived here this
morning from Chesterfield, Mass. to see his mother,
who, unfortunately for him, is now at her son's in Wil-
mington. I agreed with Mr. Doty to send for her next
Saturday - so that she may arrive here on Monday. In
the mean time he is going to Troy to visit his brother
Moses. Mr. Doty's youngest daughter but one is with
him.

They had a quilting at our house to-day - & in the
evening three or four young fellows from the N. part
of the town - and one or two more in this neighborhood,
held a sort of ball at Ira's house, verry late - nearly
day before they broke up - so that our young people
were robbed of nearly a whole night's sleep. I am
sorry to mention that Hiram was one among them.

42 It appeared likely in the forepart of the day to be rainy - and toward noon - it actually did shower upon us pretty powerfully, a little while - none of any consequence afterwards. Verry warm - wind N.

43 FRIDAY JUNE 29th. Hiram was sent off early in the morning to get the horses shod - which he could not get done till noon. I and my brother plucked out corn from hills where it was too thick and work'd in the garden. P. M. Put our old cart together - and yoked the young oxen to it. They went verry well, for creatures that had never been in such service before. We drew up several loads of broken pieces of rails - gather'd from the fence where we have been building wall. It is almost four years since we have work'd much with a cart & oxen.

A warm fair day. Wind N.

Mr. Doty went to Troy this morning.

SATURDAY JULY 30th. Should be June 30th. Fixed off Ira and his lady with their youngest to go to Wilmington after mother - as was talked of on Thursday. Was busy in the garden till noon. P. M. Pluck'd cockle from among the wheat, which tired me considerably. Last evening brother Sam. Robinson and Sister Sarah were here.

The first day in the month it was cold - and continued so, moderately, a few days - then came a cold storm, on the eighth, from the E. which lasted (which) lasted) (days) about two days. From that time till the 15th., it continued rainy - the ground was left verry wet. Without much variation it has continued to this time verry warm and pretty dry. Once in awhile a shower. Things ground nicely - in field, meadow and garden. Thunder has been pretty common, but it has often, in this month, happen'd at some distance from this place.

It rain'd some here this morning - and it was so warm in the A. M. that we look'd for showers, but it
44 clear'd away - P. M. - wind started up from N. W. - made it pretty cool.

SUNDAY JULY 1st. As I did last Sunday, so I did to-day.

Fair and cool. Wind N. W.

MONDAY JULY 2d. Diging stone the business. Mr. Doty came from Troy - went there last Friday. Ira and mother arriv'd from Wilmington. A cold morning - clear day - dry - Wind N. W. -

TUESDAY JULY 3d. Wrote a letter to my brother in Hopkinton, which after expressing some surprise at his not writing, informs him of the health of the family - of sister Lucy's being here - Mr. John Doty's being on a visit

44 here. - of our building wall - working our oxen - Sage & Winslow's digging for coal - Mrs. Anne Waters' moving to Swanton - Mrs. Fairchild and son going to Ohio State. Mention is made of a letter receiv'd by Ruth Harwood from her father, and other articles of news. Mr. Kinsley's death is mention'd. He is requested earnestly to write.

Hoed corn. Mr. John Doty & his daughter sat off for home. Mr. Montague's brother-in-law - a Mister Smith of Blanford -Mass - came to me this evening to hire a horse of me - his, having got out of the pasture & gone off, he supposes, on his way home. Could not let a horse.

Signs of rain - wind south.

WEDNESDAY JULY 4th. Hoed steadily all day. Expected rain, but little came till in the evening, when we had a fine shower. Wind blew hard from the S. W. -

I must mention one of my careless mistakes which has frequently (occor) occurred in my writing, it is, in spelling the very little word, very, where I have put in 2 rs, when only one is requisite. So I might mention a hundred more, but I should get so sick of myself that, I should stop writing. -

THURSDAY JULY 5th. Felt rather unwell - must work - chose to follow a breaking-up-plow, - Hiram driver - team went bad. Ira cut up white daizy A. M. P. M. he and Nathaniel Locke hoed together in my field.

Fair - or rather there was no rain - some cloudy dry wind from north west - which made it pretty cool.

SATURDAY JULY 6th. Hoeing finished by
FRIDAY 6th of JULY Ira, Montague & young Sam'l Robinson. My business the same - the team went better than they did yesterday. Middling warm. Wind most of the time S.

Mr. Parsons' youngest child died this day about 12 o'clock at noon. 27th. June p. 40

45 SATURDAY JULY 7th. Did n't work all day.- A shower of rain from first cause of my leaving the field - undertook business when that was over, but it rain'd again - no more done. Ira and Samuel worked in the garden in the A. M. A funeral was attended at Mr. Parsons' - P. M. occasion'd by the death of an infant. See June 27th. A sermon was preach'd by Mr. Marsh. My affairs were so situated that I could not attend, but Ira and others in the family gave attendance.

Miss Annis Stone - here on a visit - also Miss Achsah Doty - who resides at Cambridge - N. Y.

The rain that came to-day put a bright countenance on the whole vegetable creation about us. Before the rain it was extremely warm - wind high in the Sth.

45 SUNDAY JULY 8th. No going to Church from this dwelling, though it was full of people of both sexes. The weather continu'd extremely wet through the day.

Mr. Andrew Parsons being at his brother's on a visit attempted several times to go home, but was oblig'd to desist on account of the rain.

Miss A. Stone's horse broke out of my enclosures this morning and went (we suppose) home.

MONDAY JULY 9th. Respecting business about which I was employ'd the same as that of last week. Ira bought scythes and ground them.

Fair and cool - wind N. W. -

Means were us'd to convey Miss Stone home.

TUESDAY JULY 10th. Plowing again. Ira intended to do a day's work for Mr. Montague, but so out of health as to oblige him to quit his field and turn his attention to some errands he had in town and light work at home.

Gave in my list - viz. Poll, 100 acres - improv'd land, 1 yoke of oxen, 9 cows, 3 horses, 1 cold 3 yrs. old, heifers and steers old & dwellinghouse. Ira has given in his poll, 4 cows and house. Hiram his poll.

Good weather. Wind Sth. -

46 WEDNESDAY JULY 11th. Made an end of the business of plowing fallow. P. M. I and Hiram hoed for Mr. Montague. In the A. M. Ira went down to gen. Walbridge's to get a scythe and a memorandom book, but he return'd without either of them, because they would n't take Vermont money. P. M. He gallanted the ladies about town some and went to Hill's carding machine. Wind S. - warm - signs of rain.

My eldest sister is verry ill - Lucy is gone to assist. Mrs. Harwood went to see her - found her better than she had been.

THURSDAY JULY 12th. Employ'd about building wall. - Mr. Montague head workman.

Good weather - warm - wind S.

FRIDAY JULY 13th. & SATURDAY THE 14th. Journey'd to Troy and home again - and no ill luck - bought salt and other articles to the amount of $11.37 cts. Salt bushels - including ½ bushel for Parsons. On Friday, Ira and Hiram work'd for Mr. Parsons getting out rails - had the oxen also. Saturday Hiram went to Maj'r. Norton's to get the cart mended, but Major Norton was so full of businessthat he he could not attend to it till Monday. P. M. he had Parsons' horse and cart with which he went to mill. Mr. Parsons built a

46 piece of rail-fence on the line between his possessions and this farm - and had the assistance of father, Ira and Hiram, - enough to come to a half day's labor for two men.

Very warm with signs of rain - in these two days - Saturday at night - it became cold.

SUNDAY JULY 15th. With others of the family attended public worship.

Cold and clear - Wind N. -

Receipe to cure the Itch. April 17th, 1809. -

Take one ounce of red precipitate 2 ounces of the spirrits of turpentine, 2 ounces of burgundy-pitch, one puund of fresh butter - simmer the turpentine and butter together & stir in the other articles when cooling. - Receiv'd of Nathan Mellon. -

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MONDAY JULY 16th. Commenced the bus business of haying. Grinding and hanging scythes took up much of the time in the
47 A. M. P. M. it was rainy so that no mowing could be done. Ira went to Major Norton's and brought away the cart - which he had mended according to promise - this we work'd upon sone(me) to get it (get) ready for (haying) drawing hay.

Mr. Nathaniel R. Locke began to work here this day.

Mr. Elisha Waters had the use of my horses and waggon twothirds of the day.

Mr. Noble Clark (a nephew of Mrs. Harwood's) and Mr. McMaster tarried with us last night - set off for home (Georgia Vt.) this morning. They are returning from a tour to the Hollard - Purchase.

A cloudy A. M. and a rainy P. M. -

In passing Vermont money in Troy - had to give a discount of percent.

Mr. Murphy & Mr. Dunbar went from Ira's on Sunday. They boarded here on Winlow's & Sage's account. See p. 28. 24th. - May. 9/0 a week for each.

TUESDAY JULY 17th. Business went on pretty (regual) regularly. Very clear and uncommonly cold.

A young gentleman from Ellington in Connecticut - with a load of tin, put up here this evening. He and Hiram amus'd themselves playing the flute.

WEDNESDAY JULY 18th. All went well. We undertook drawing in hay with our young oxen, & succeeded pretty well, though we were oblig'd to chastise them severely for their (unruly) unrully behavior.

Rarely ever a colder morning at this time of the year, a fine day followed.

47 THURSDAY JULY 19th. Mr. Isaac Godfrey pull'd flax here this P. M. - business in other respects underwent no material change. Look'd likely to rain in the early part of the day - P. M. clear'd away & became very warm - wind Sth.